



SEE THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE WITH *Tommy*
TOMORROW



10¢

52
PAGES

ACTION COMICS

Featuring
THE LATEST
Superman
THRILLER



4AM
NO. 140



Baby Brownie Special Camera. Makes good snaps simple, sure. Full-color, too, in bright sunlight. Fixed-focus lens. Negatives, $1\frac{1}{8} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. \$2.75.



Brownie Target Six-20 Camera. Brilliant vertical and horizontal view finders. Fixed-focus lens; two stops for varying light. Negatives, $2\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$. \$5.75.



Brownie Flash Six-20 Camera. "Makes snaps around the clock." Full-color pictures, too, in full sun. Two-position focusing helps get sharp, clear snaps. Negatives, $2\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$. \$5.92; Flashholder, \$2.92.



Which Kodak Camera for Christmas?

Here's help in making up your mind

Looking for a camera . . . a camera for a beginner . . . for an all-out ace . . . or for someone in between?

On this page are six cameras. For the money, each is tops in its class. Your Kodak dealer has these and other Kodak cameras. Ask him for the full story of what each of them has to offer—color shots, flash shots, action pictures, and so on.

Eastman Kodak Company,
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Kodak Duaflex Camera. Big, brilliant finder shows you your picture before you snap. Fixed focus. Negatives, $2\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{4}$. With Kodet Lens, \$12.75, including lens shield, neck strap. With Kodar Lens, \$19.85; Flashholder, \$3.33.



Brownie Hawkeye Camera. Newest Brownie box camera. Takes 12 black-and-white, 9 full-color pictures per roll of Kodak 620 Film. Oversize view finder. Time exposures and "B" shutter setting permit "flash" shots with Kodak Photo Flasher. \$5.50; Kodak Photo Flasher, \$1.55.

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"Kodak" and "Brownie"
are trade-marks

SUPERMAN

IT'S NO USE,
FOLKS! SUPERMAN
DOESN'T WANT TO
HAVE ANYTHING
TO DO WITH US
ANYMORE!



That IS THE QUESTION THAT BOTHERS THE CITIZENS OF METROPOLIS WHEN THEIR MOST HONORED SON, THE MAN OF TOMORROW, SUDDENLY CUTS HIMSELF OFF FROM CIVILIZATION! WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO DRIVE SUPERMAN TO A RETREAT IN THE WILDERNESS... AWAY FROM THE WORLD HE HAS LOVED AND SERVED SO WELL... A WORLD THAT SEETHES WITH CURIOSITY TO KNOW WHY---

SUPERMAN BECOMES A HERMIT!

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WHEN LOIS LANE COVERS AN EVENT WHERE SUPERMAN IS TO APPEAR, SHE IS USUALLY VERY HAPPY... BUT NOT TODAY...

WE CAN'T WAIT FOR SUPERMAN ANY LONGER, MISS LANE! HE'S A HALF HOUR LATE ALREADY! PERHAPS YOU WILL LAUNCH THE SHIP FOR US!

CERTAINLY, MAYOR HASKINS! BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENED TO SUPERMAN... HE ALWAYS KEEPS APPOINTMENTS!



I CHRESTEN YOU... **SUPERMAN!** I MEAN... I MEAN... **SUPERBA!**

OH, DEAR! I'M ALL UPSET! I'VE NEVER KNOWN SUPERMAN TO BE LATE BEFORE!



I GUESS IT'S SILLY OF ME TO WORRY SO ABOUT SUPERMAN! I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET HIM AT SIX O'CLOCK AT STATION WMET FOR HIS REGULAR BROADCAST. I'LL ASK HIM THEN WHY HE MISSED LAUNCHING THE **SUPERBA!**



BUT HALF AN HOUR LATER... AT STATION WMET...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! WE WILL BE UNABLE TO BROADCAST OUR USUAL PROGRAM! **SUPERMAN** HAS NOT ARRIVED!

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH SUPERMAN? THAT'S **TWO** APPOINTMENTS HE MISSED TODAY! AND HE'S DUE AT THE SANDLOT BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME TONIGHT! HE **CAN'T** MISS THAT!



And AT THE SANDLOT BASEBALL CONTEST, WHICH SUPERMAN SPONSORS YEARLY FOR JUVENILE BASEBALL PLAYERS...

SUPERMAN HASN'T SHOWN UP, MISS LANE! AND THESE KIDS ARE AWFULLY DISAPPOINTED!

THAT DOES IT! THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME REASON WHY SUPERMAN MISSED THOSE OTHER APPOINTMENTS... BUT HE'D NEVER LET THESE SANDLOT KIDS DOWN! I'D BETTER GO BACK TO THE OFFICE!



MINUTES LATER, AT THE DAILY PLANET OFFICE...

WELL, LOIS! DID YOU GET THE BASEBALL STORY FROM SUPERMAN?

NO, I DIDN'T, BOSS! BUT I'VE GOT A BIGGER STORY! ... GET THIS, CHIEF... **SUPERMAN HAS DISAPPEARED!**



WOW! WHAT A STORY! HELLO! BUREAU OF MISSING PERSONS? I WANT TO REPORT A DISAPPEARANCE! SUPERMAN! YES... HE'S VANISHED INTO THIN AIR!

I'LL WRITE THE STORY, CHIEF!

I'VE GOT ONE BREAK, ANYWAY! WITH CLARK KENT AWAY ON VACATION, HE CAN'T SCOOP ME ON THIS STORY!

SOON, THROUGHOUT THE NATION... SPECIAL ALARMS ARE BROADCAST...

DIT-DA-DIT... SUPERMAN MISSING... DIT-DA-DIT...

SUPERMAN MISSING! COUNTRYSIDE BEING SCoured FOR SIGN...

CALLING ALL CARS! BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SUPERMAN! HE IS MISSING!

THE FOLLOWING DAY, A LONE PILOT PATROLS THE DESERT FOR SIGNS OF THE MAN OF TOMORROW!

NO SIGN OF SUPERMAN ANYWHERE... AND THE WHOLE COUNTRY'S LOOKING FOR HIM! BUT... WHAT'S THAT DOWN THERE? I'D BETTER SIGHT IT THROUGH MY TELESCOPE!

THE TELESCOPE BRINGS A FAMILIAR FIGURE INTO FOCUS... SUPERMAN!

AND THE PILOT INSTANTLY SENDS A NOTE EARTHWARD VIA EMERGENCY PARACHUTE!

GOOD GRIEF! SOMEONE'S FOUND ME! WELL, I'LL ANSWER HIS NOTE... SO THERE'LL BE NO DOUBT ABOUT THE WAY I FEEL!

SUPERMAN, WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU IN TROUBLE? DO YOU NEED HELP?

EXERTING HIS SUPER-VOICE, THE MAN OF TOMORROW SHOUTS HIS ANSWER SKYWARD!

GO AWAY! DON'T BOTHER ME! THAT GOES FOR YOU AND EVERYBODY ELSE!

WHEW! SUPERMAN SURE SOUNDED LIKE HE MEANT WHAT HE SAID! MAYBE THE POOR GUY HAS GONE OFF HIS ROCKER! I'D BETTER GET DOWN TO THE DAILY PLANET AND SEE LOIS LANE! SHE KNOWS HIM BETTER THAN ANYONE IN THE WORLD!



AND SO, AN HOUR LATER...AT THE DAILY PLANET...

BUT IT'S TRUE, MISS LANE... THAT'S JUST... WHAT SUPERMAN SAID!

OH, GOODNESS! HIS MIND'S PROBABLY CRACKED UNDER THE STRAIN OF ALL THE HARD WORK HE DOES! IT'S AWFUL! BUT AS A NEWSPAPERWOMAN, IT'S MY DUTY TO LET THE WORLD KNOW ABOUT IT!



THAT EVENING, EXTRA EDITIONS OF THE DAILY PLANET BLAZON FORTH THE ASTONISHING NEWS!



MEANWHILE, WHAT OF SUPERMAN? LET US LOOK IN ON HIM AS HE SITS IN HIS MOUNTAIN RETREAT, SEEMINGLY STARING OFF INTO SPACE!

THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! THAT PLANT IS THE WORST PROBLEM I'VE EVER FACED! BUT I'LL FIND A SOLUTION... I'VE GOT TO!



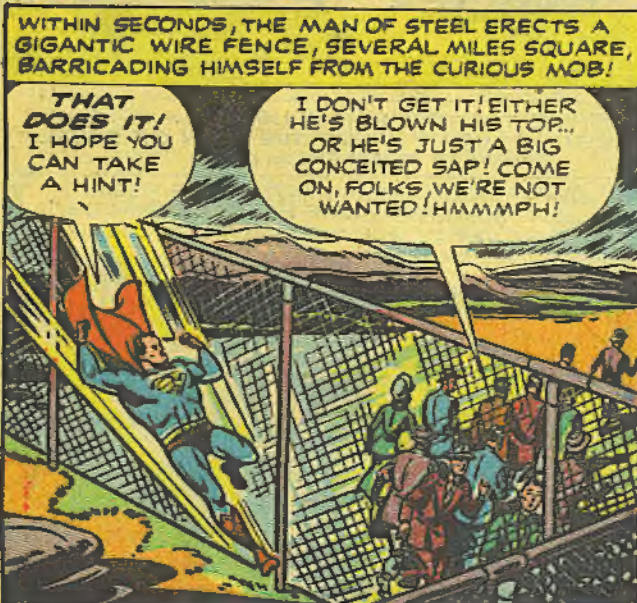
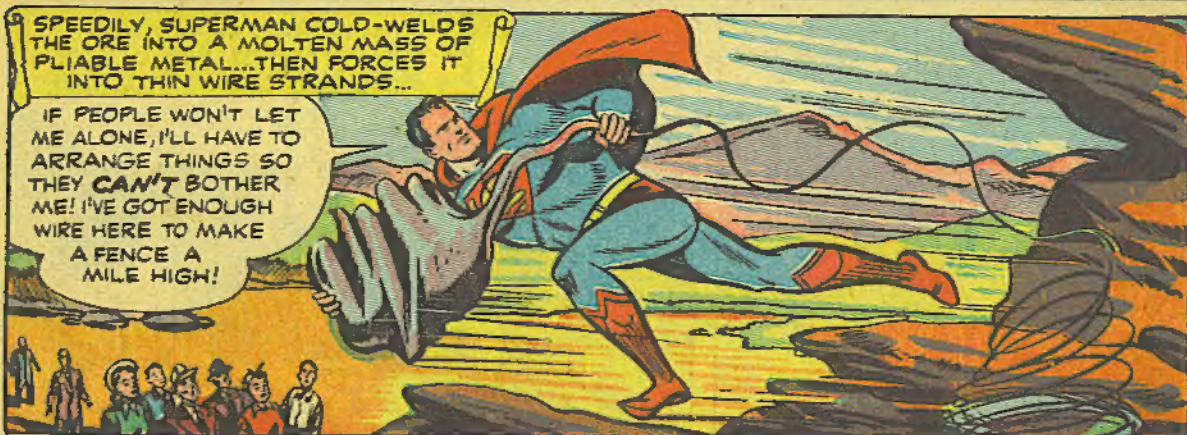
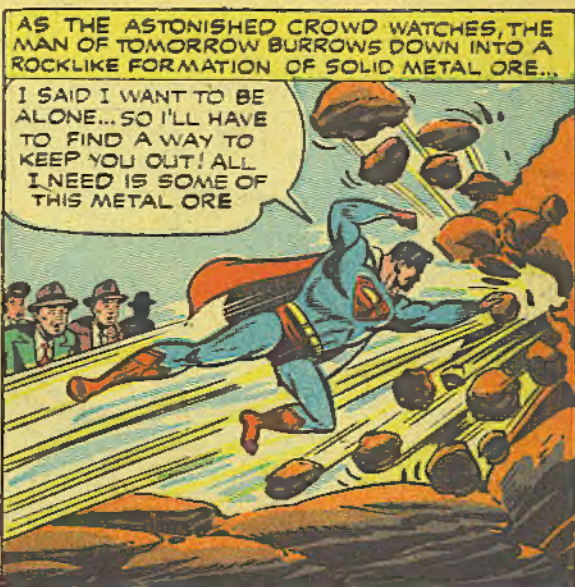
AND THE SAME QUESTION PLAGUES THE POPULACE AS PEOPLE START ARRIVING IN HORDES AT SUPERMAN'S SELF-IMPOSED RETREAT!

THERE HE IS...THERE'S SUPERMAN!

SAY! HE DOES LOOK KIND OF QUEER SITTING THERE LIKE THAT! WHAT'S HE UP TO?



IS IT POSSIBLE? HAS SUPERMAN'S SUPER-INTELLECT REALLY SLIPPED? IF IT HASN'T, WHY IS HE SITTING ALONE LIKE THIS, BROODING ABOUT AN INCONSPICUOUS-LOOKING LITTLE PLANT? WHAT'S WRONG WITH SUPERMAN?



BUT SUPERMAN UNDERESTIMATES THE LENGTHS TO WHICH CURIOUS PEOPLE WILL GO! FOR INSTANCE, A LITTLE LATER...

HI, SUPERMAN!

“GROAN”
ANOTHER INVASION
OF BUSYBODIES!
AND THIS TIME...
AIRBORNE!

I'LL HAVE TO WORK FAST, IF I'M TO KEEP THEM OUT! FIRST I'LL INTERLACE THESE BUSHES INTO A NET! THEN ALL I'LL NEED IS A TREE TRUNK... AND I'M ALL SET!

EVEN AS THE PARACHUTERS FLOAT EARTHWARD, SUPERMAN COMPLETES A PRIMITIVE, BUT EFFECTIVE POLE-NET, AND...

OOOPS!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, SUPERMAN?

OH-OH!
THERE'S ONE I ALMOST MISSED!

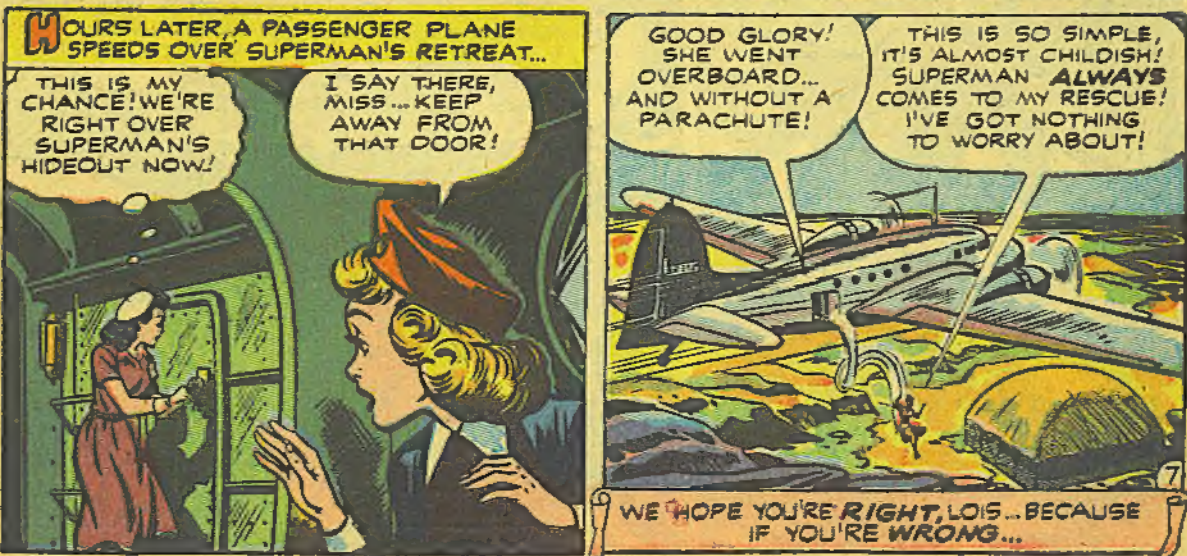
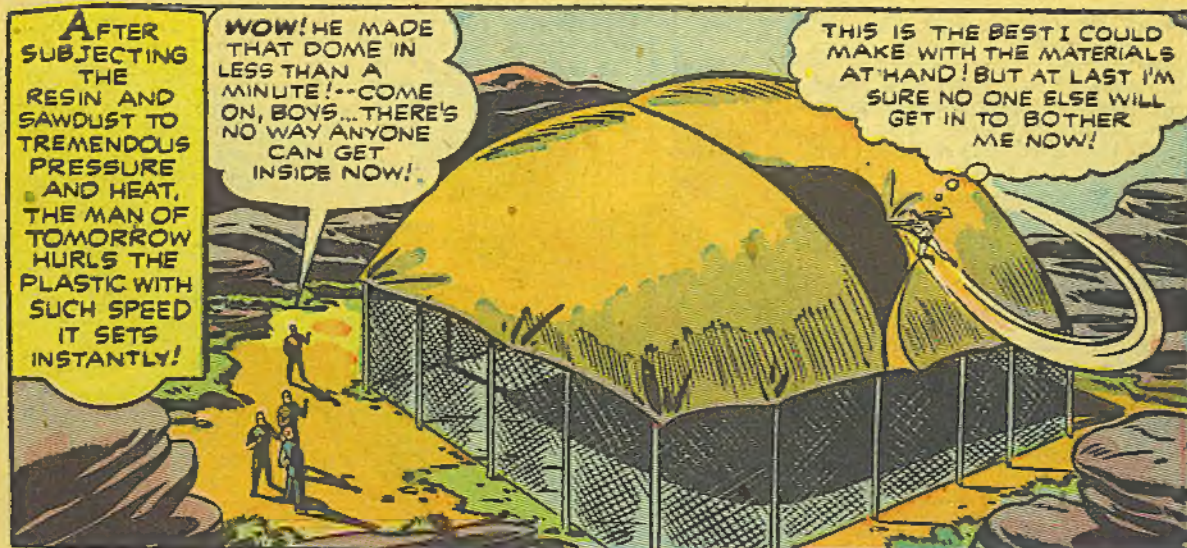
CATCHING BUTTERFLIES...
ON A BIGGER SCALE!

BUT WHY DON'T YOU WANT ANY VISITORS, SUPERMAN?

I'M AFRAID THAT'S MY BUSINESS! AND JUST TO MAKE SURE THERE'LL BE NO MORE AIRBORNE VISITORS...THERE'S ONE OTHER THING I'D BETTER DO!

GRUSHING THE TREE HE HAS USED AS A POLE-NET BETWEEN HIS MIGHTY HANDS, THE MAN OF STEEL EXTRACTS RESIN FROM IT...

MOST PLASTICS ARE A MIXTURE OF RESIN AND SOME MATERIAL LIKE PAPER OR SAWDUST! I CAN PULVERIZE ALL THE SAWDUST I NEED FROM THIS TREE!



FAR BELOW, SUPERMAN HEARS THE OVERHEAD PLANE, AND...

GREAT SCOTT! LOIS... **FALLING!** SHE'S THE **LAST** PERSON I WANT TO SEE... BUT I'LL HAVE TO GO AFTER HER!



SECONDS LATER, THE MAN OF TOMORROW ZOOMS SKYWARD... SPLITTING THE "UNBREAKABLE" PLASTIC DOME AS HE ROCKETS UPWARD...

LOIS! OF ALL THE RIDICULOUS STUNTS, THIS TAKES THE CAKE!



I HAD TO SEE YOU, SUPERMAN! PLEASE LET ME TALK TO YOU A FEW MINUTES... **PLEASE!**

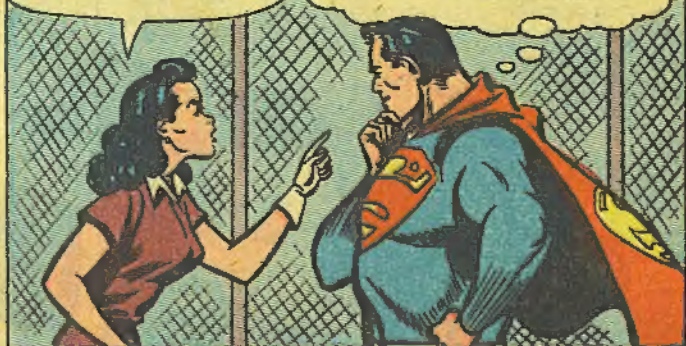
ALL RIGHT, LOIS! YOU CAN TALK TO ME FOR EXACTLY **FIVE** MINUTES... BUT THAT'S ALL! I'VE GOT A LOT OF THINKING TO DO!



THINKING? THAT'S ODD! BUT THEN, EVERYONE SAYS YOU'RE ACTING VERY STRANGELY! SOME PEOPLE EVEN THINK YOU'RE... ER... A LITTLE CRAZY!

BUT I DON'T THINK YOU'RE CRAZY! I KNOW YOU'RE HERE FOR SOME REASON... AND I DEMAND TO KNOW WHAT IT IS!

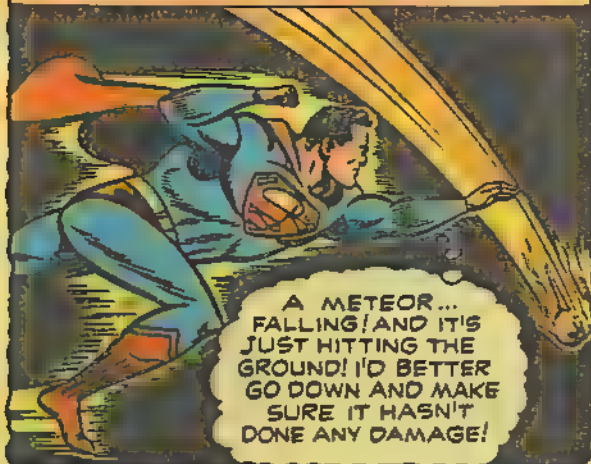
IF I DON'T TELL HER THE REASON, SHE'LL FIND OUT BY HERSELF... AND PUBLISH THE STORY SO THE WHOLE WORLD WILL KNOW... I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN!



ALL RIGHT, LOIS, YOU WIN! I'LL TELL YOU THE **REAL** REASON WHY I'M HERE! -- YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE IT, BUT IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT LITTLE **PLANT** DOWN THERE! YOU SEE, LAST WEEK...

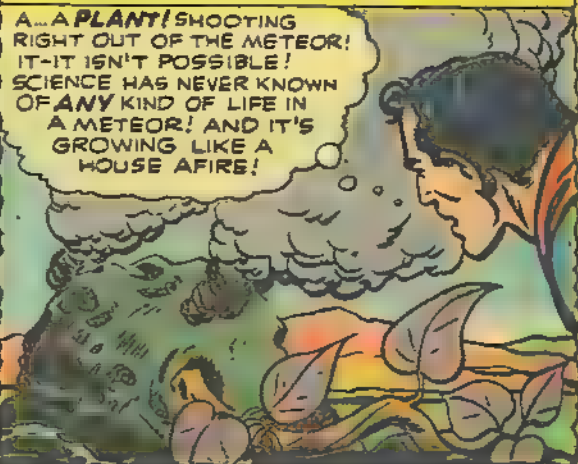


"AS I WAS RETURNING FROM A TRIP TO THE COAST, I SAW A SUDDEN BLAZE OF LIGHT NOT FAR FROM HERE..."



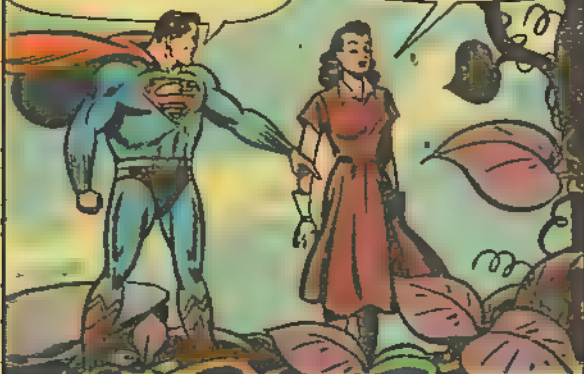
A METEOR... FALLING! AND IT'S JUST HITTING THE GROUND! I'D BETTER GO DOWN AND MAKE SURE IT HASN'T DONE ANY DAMAGE!

"...WHEN I GOT TO THE METEOR, THE MOST INCREDIBLE THING HAPPENED... RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES!"



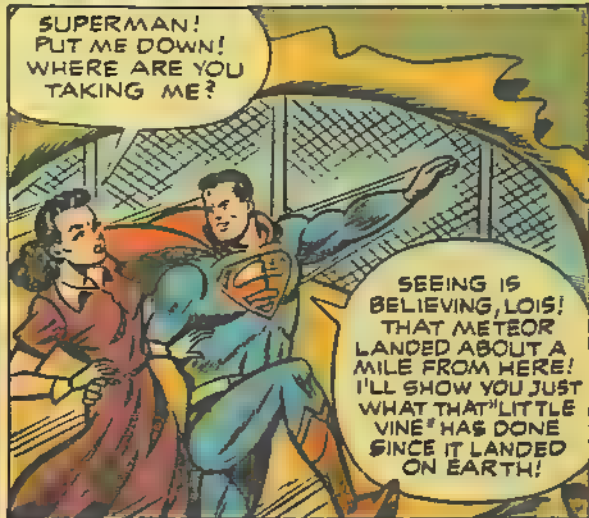
A... A PLANT! SHOOTING RIGHT OUT OF THE METEOR! IT-IT ISN'T POSSIBLE! SCIENCE HAS NEVER KNOWN OF ANY KIND OF LIFE IN A METEOR! AND IT'S GROWING LIKE A HOUSE AFIRE!

THAT PLANT, LOIS, IS THE ONE YOU SEE BEFORE YOU! IT REPRESENTS THE GREATEST MENACE TO MANKIND IN ALL HISTORY!



THAT'S RIDICULOUS, SUPERMAN! HOW COULD A LITTLE VINE LIKE THAT HARM ANYTHING?

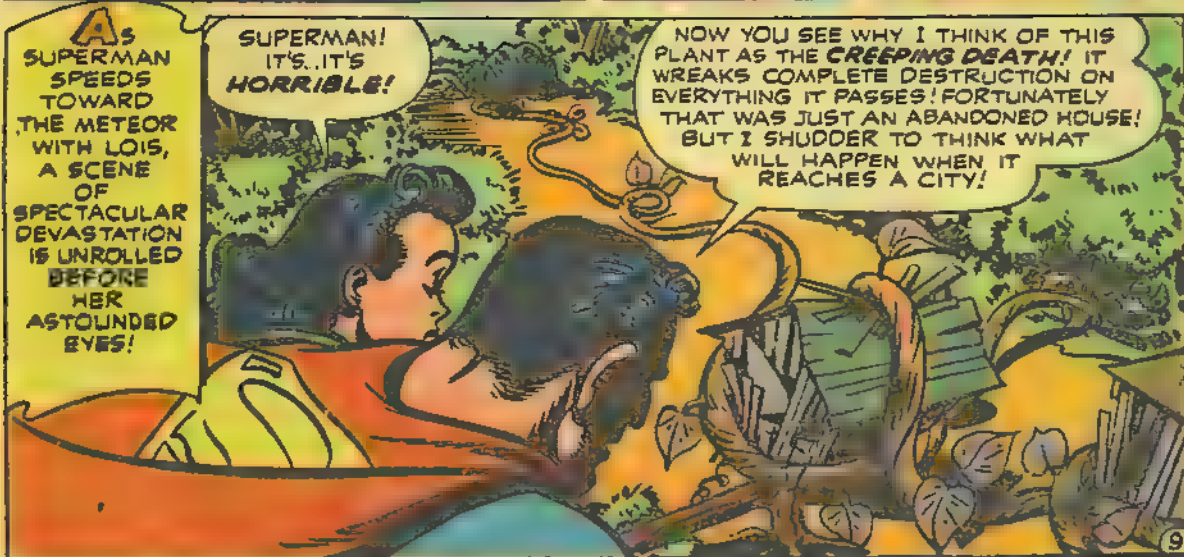
SUPERMAN! PUT ME DOWN! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?



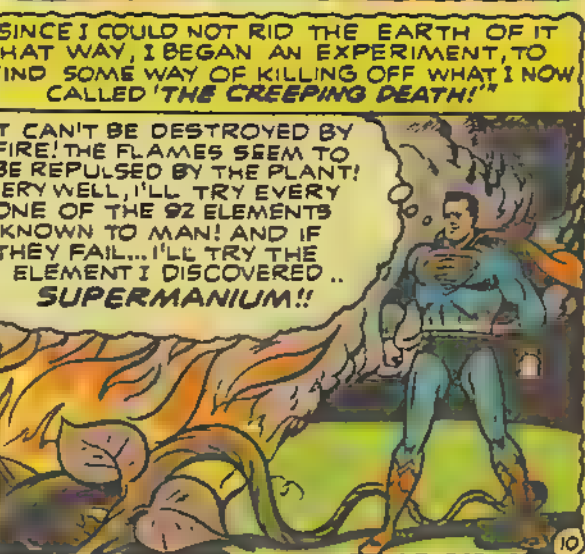
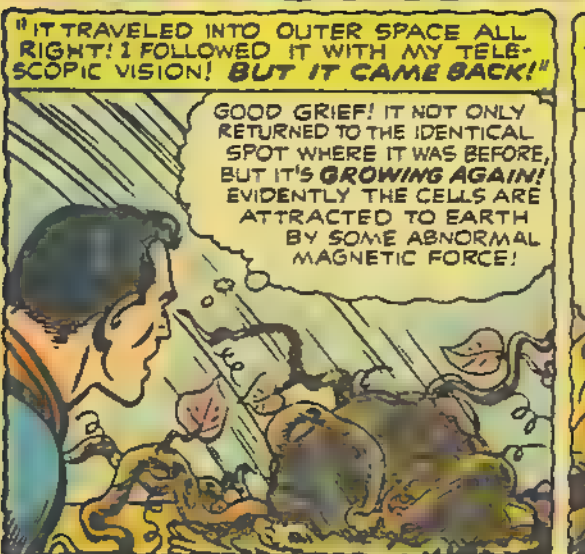
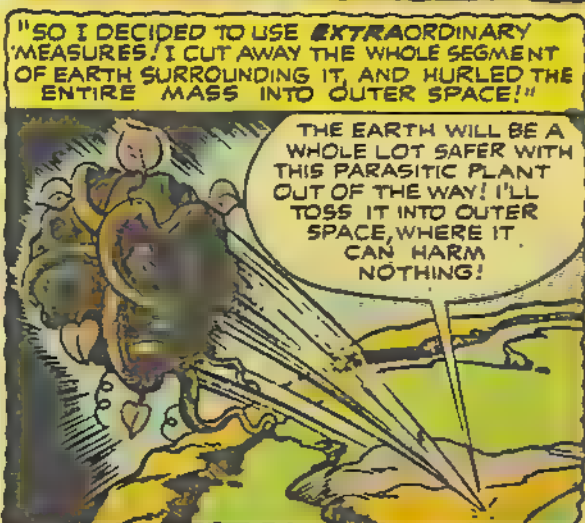
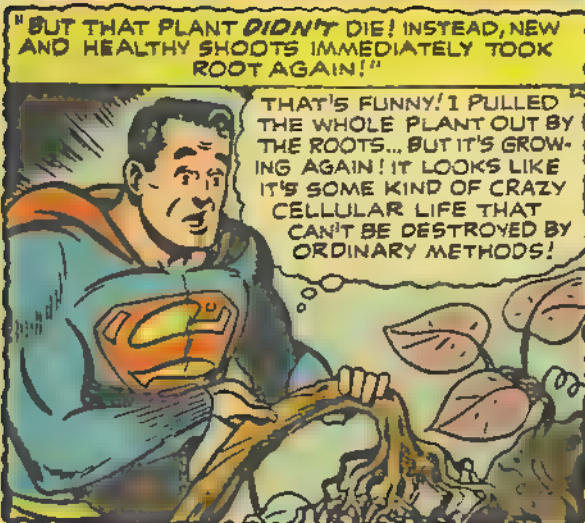
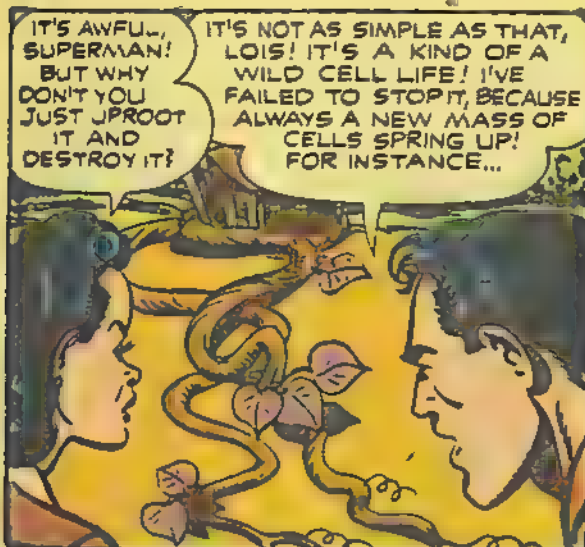
SEEING IS BELIEVING, LOIS! THAT METEOR LANDED ABOUT A MILE FROM HERE! I'LL SHOW YOU JUST WHAT THAT "LITTLE VINE" HAS DONE SINCE IT LANDED ON EARTH!

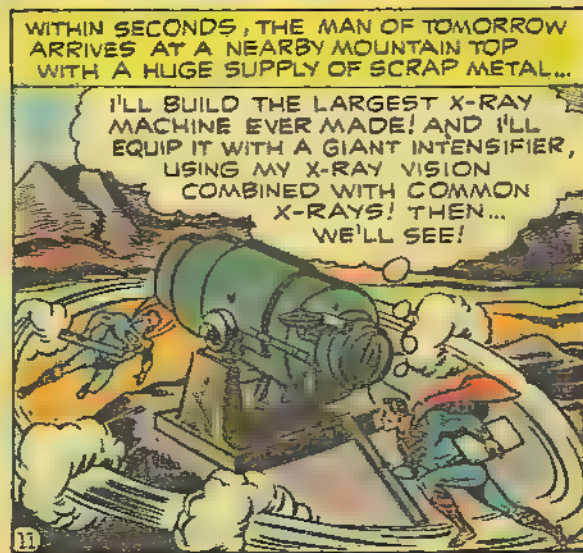
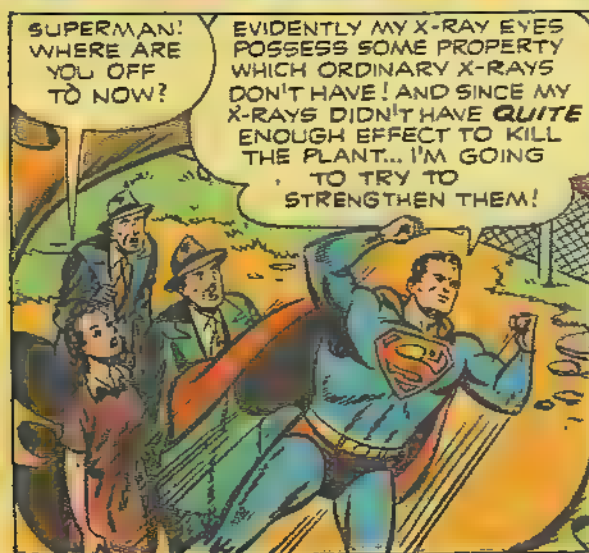
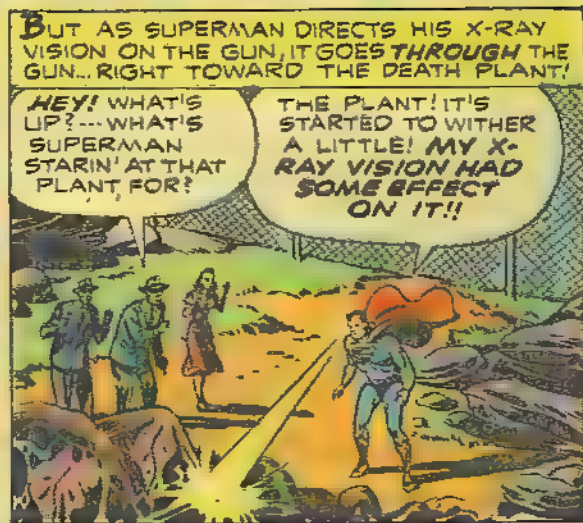
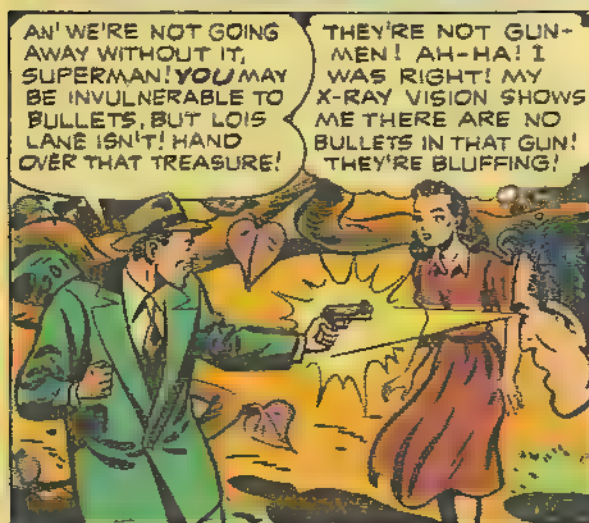
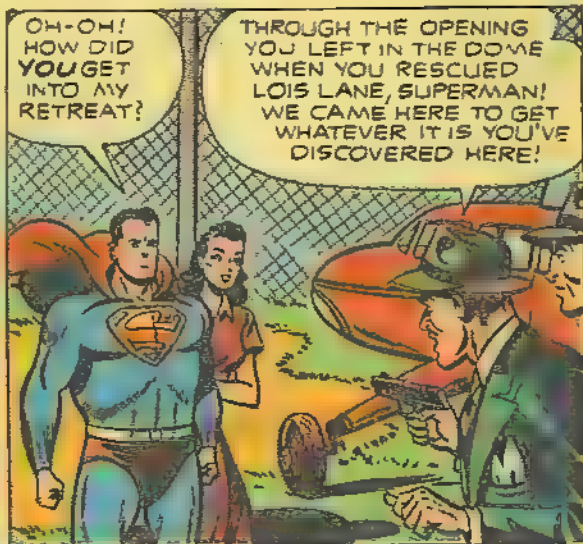
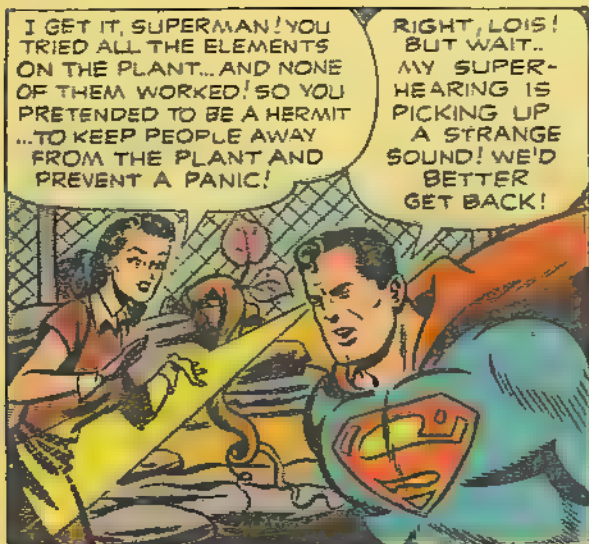
AS SUPERMAN SPEEDS TOWARD THE METEOR WITH LOIS, A SCENE OF SPECTACULAR DEVASTATION IS UNROLLED BEFORE HER ASTOUNDED EYES!

SUPERMAN! IT'S... IT'S HORRIBLE!



NOW YOU SEE WHY I THINK OF THIS PLANT AS THE **CREeping DEATH**! IT WREAKS COMPLETE DESTRUCTION ON EVERYTHING IT PASSES! FORTUNATELY THAT WAS JUST AN ABANDONED HOUSE! BUT I SHUDDER TO THINK WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN IT REACHES A CITY!





MOMENTS LATER, SUPERMAN DIRECTS HIS UNUSUAL X-RAY VISION AT THE HUGE X-RAY MACHINE, AND THE MAMMOTH INTENSIFIER SENDS THE RAYS TOWARD... **THE CREEPING DEATH PLANT!**

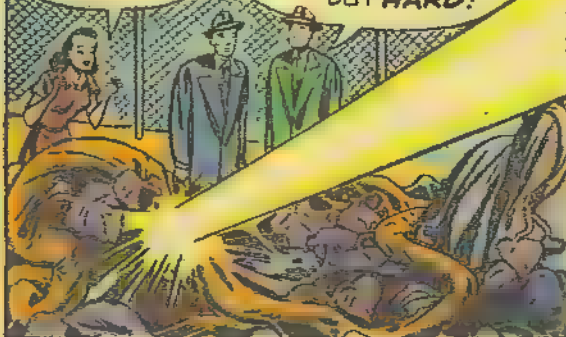
IF THIS CONCENTRATED X-RAY POWER DOESN'T DESTROY THE CELL LIFE OF THE PLANT... A DREADFUL FATE AWAITS THE PLANET EARTH! **IT'S JUST GOT TO WORK!!**



THEN, BEFORE THE ASTONISHED GAZE OF THE ONLOOKERS, THE VINE BEGINS TO WHITHER ALONG ITS TREMENDOUS LENGTH!

IT WORKED! **IT WORKED!** THE PLANT IS SHRIVELING COMPLETELY AWAY!

Y'KNOW, HARRY, WHEN I THINK THE "CREEPING DEATH" WAS THE "TREASURE" WE CAME HERE TO GET... I WISH YOU'D KICK ME... **BUT HARD!**



AS THE FULL POWER OF THE COMBINED X-RAYS SHRIVELS THE VINE DOWN TO ITS ROOTS, THE WHOLE PLANT SUDDENLY GOES UP IN A PUFF OF SMOKE!



OH, SUPERMAN! YOU WERE **WONDERFUL!** THE WHOLE PLANT HAS COMPLETELY VANISHED!

YES, LOIS... AND I GUESS WE CAN ALL GO BACK TO METROPOLIS NOW! THE WORLD IS SAFE NOW FROM... **THE CREEPING DEATH!**



THE NEXT DAY, IN METROPOLIS, A WEARY CLARK KENT RETURNS TO THE OFFICE OF THE **DAILY PLANET...**

IT SURE IS GOOD TO BE BACK HERE AGAIN, LOIS!

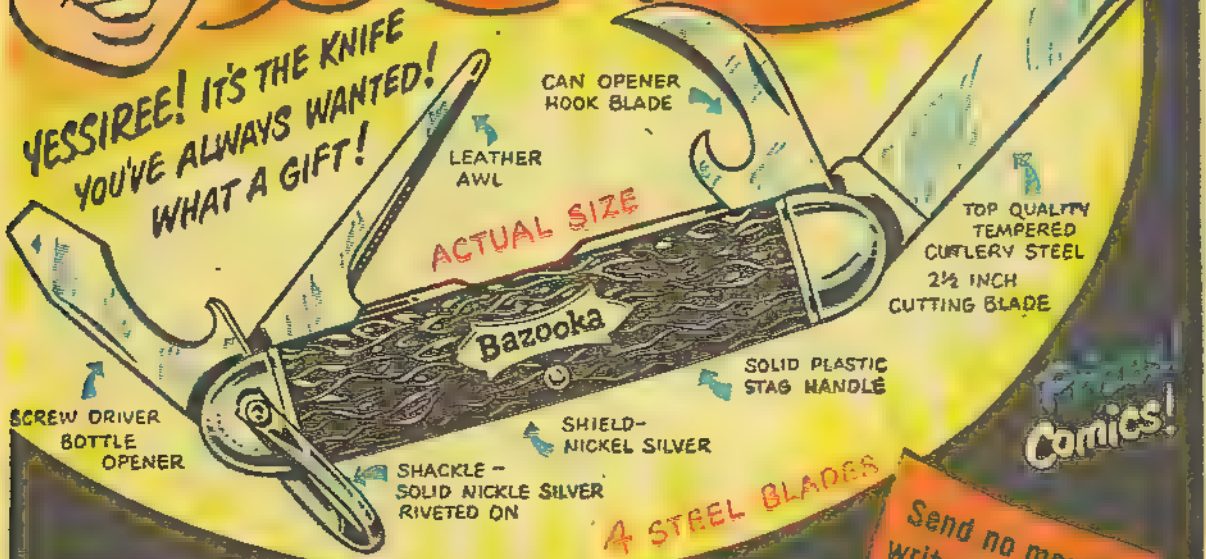
OH, **FOOEY!** WHEN YOU GO AWAY ON A VACATION, ALL YOU GET IS **SUNBURN!** WHEN **SUPERMAN** WENT ON VACATION, **HE** SAVED THE WORLD!



THE WORLD'S GREATEST ADVENTURE CHARACTER—**SUPERMAN**—ALSO APPEARS IN **WORLD'S FINEST COMICS** AND **SUPERMAN COMICS**

WOW! KIDS! I'M GIVING AWAY 10,000 OFFICIAL BAZOOKA SCOUTING KNIVES!

YESSIREE! IT'S THE KNIFE
YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED!
WHAT A GIFT!



Comics!

TO THE FIRST 10,000 BOYS & GIRLS TO SEND IN 100 PENNY BAZOOKA WRAPPERS!

YOU CAN WIN my official scouting knife! Just follow these simple rules!

Send no money...
write no letters...
Start Collecting
Wrappers Today

1. Start today to save the wrappers from delicious PENNY BAZOOKA Bubble Gum. All BAZOOKA wrappers are good for this KNIFE OFFER.

2. When you have collected one hundred of these red, white and blue silver foil wrappers, put them in an envelope, with your name and address on a slip of paper inside.

3. Mail to BAZOOKA, Dept. B, Box 100, Brooklyn 32, N. Y. The first 10,000 entries received in this prize award will win my BAZOOKA Scouting Knife. Entries judged by the date and hour of the postmark on your letter to give everybody, everywhere the same chance. Duplicate prizes in case of ties.

4. Entries must be postmarked not later than midnight, December 15, 1949, to qualify.

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WE ALL KNOW COLONEL TOMMY TOMORROW, OF 1989. AS A DARING PLANETEER AND ADVENTURER, HUNTING DOWN CRIME, BUT WHEN A CUNNING SPACE SMUGGLER ELUDES CAPTURE, TOMMY TAKES UP A STRANGE NEW ROLE AS AN INTERPLANETARY BUFFOON!... A JOKESTER OF THE SPACEWAYS!... A COSMIC COMEDIAN! WITH HIS YOUNG BROTHER TIM, JUNIOR PLANETEER, TOMMY TOMORROW SPREADS LAUGHTER FROM PLANET TO PLANET PLAYING THE PART OF...

The SPACE CLOWN!

AT THE PLANETEER HEADQUARTERS ON EARTH, A NOTORIOUS SPACE CRIMINAL IS DISCUSSED.

HOW CAN WE GET THE GOODS ON THIS CUNNING CRIMINAL, THE SPACE SMUGGLER? SOMEHOW HE SMUGGLES JEWELS TO EARTH FROM OTHER PLANETS, WITHOUT EVER GETTING CAUGHT.

HE MUST USE A SECRET CONTACT-MAN ON EARTH!

AND THAT CONTACT MAN MIGHT BE ONE OF OUR OWN PLANETEERS.

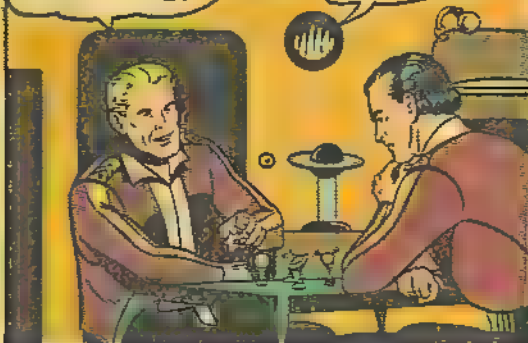
WE CAN LEAVE NO POSSIBILITY NEGLECTED! WE'LL ORDER A GENERAL SEARCH OF THE BARRACKS WITH OUR ROBOT SEARCHER!



MEANWHILE, AT THE BARRACKS, COLONEL TOMMY TOMORROW IS ENJOYING A GAME OF SPACE CHESS WITH HIS ROOMMATE...

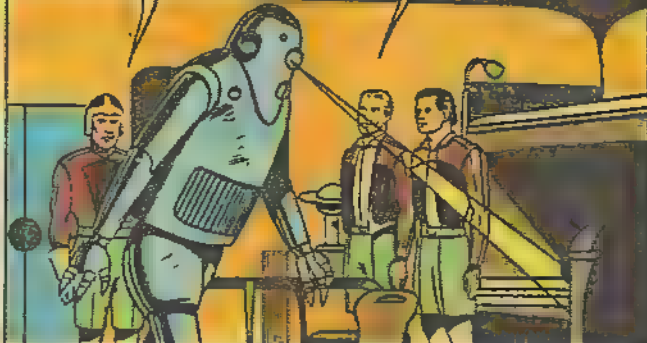
MY STAR TAKES YOUR METEOR! CHECKMATE!

ATTENTION! OPEN FOR GENERAL SEARCH!



WE SUSPECT SOME PLANETEER HAS BEEN HELPING THE SPACE SMUGGLER BRING JEWELS TO EARTH! THE ROBOT SEARCHER WILL EXAMINE YOUR ROOM!

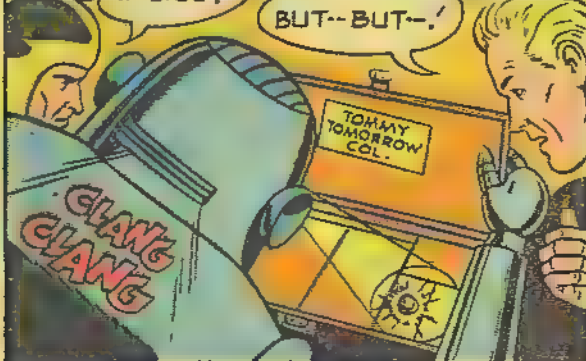
GO RIGHT TO IT, SIR! I'M SURE WE HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE!



BUT ONLY A MOMENT LATER, AS THE ROBOT USES PENETRATIVE X-RAYS TO SEARCH...

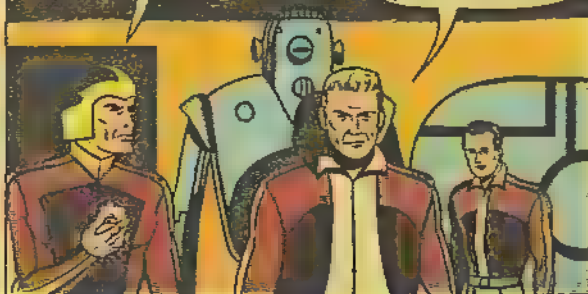
THE SIGNAL! THE ROBOT SEARCHER FOUND IT--A HUGE URANIUM JEWEL FROM SATURN! AND IN TOMMY TOMORROW'S VALISE!

BUT-- BUT--!



NO BUTS! THE EVIDENCE IS PLAIN! AS A PLANETEER, YOU'RE IMMUNE TO ARREST ON CRIMINAL CHARGES, BUT YOU WILL NOW BE DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED, IN DISGRACE!

REMEMBER, I WAS DISCHARGED ONCE BEFORE, ALTHOUGH I WAS INNOCENT. I AM NO MORE GUILTY NOW THAN I WAS THEN!



BUT TOMMY TOMORROW'S GREAT CAREER AMONG THE PLANETEERS IS BLASTED!

HARRY, I TELL YOU I WAS FRAMED!

I DON'T KNOW YOU, MISTER! KEEP MOVING!

PLANETEER HQ.



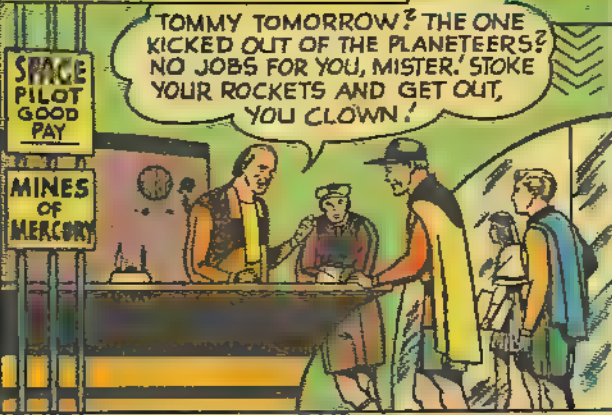
AT HIS CITY APARTMENT, TOMMY BREAKS THE BITTER NEWS TO HIS YOUNG BROTHER TIM, JUNIOR PLANETEER.

GOSH! TOMMY, THIS IS AWFUL! WE'LL FIND OUT WHO FRAMED YOU, AND YOU'LL GET BACK ON THE PLANETEERS!

NO, TIM! I'M NOT GOING TO GO THROUGH THAT AGAIN. I'VE GOT TO MAKE MYSELF A NEW CAREER, THAT'S ALL!

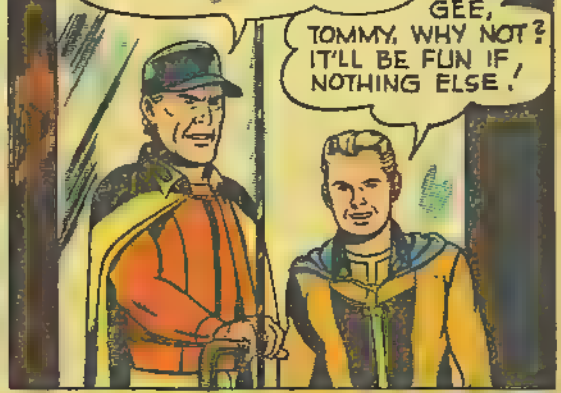


A WEARY ROUND OF JOB-SEEKING FOLLOWS, BUT EVEN THE LIMITLESS OPPORTUNITIES OF 1989 ARE CLOSED TO AN EX-PLANETEER.



TOMMY TOMORROW? THE ONE KICKED OUT OF THE PLANETEERS? NO JOBS FOR YOU, MISTER. STROKE YOUR ROCKETS AND GET OUT, YOU CLOWN!

SO HE CALLED ME A CLOWN, DID HE? THERE'S A CAREER NOBODY THOUGHT OF BEFORE. I'LL BUILD MYSELF UP AS THE SPACE CLOWN!



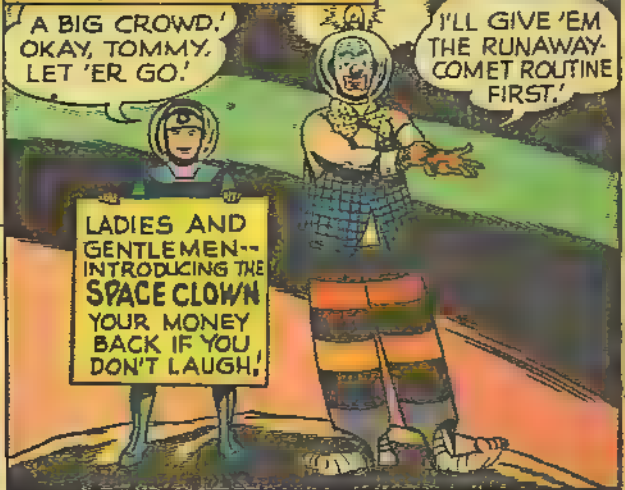
GEE, TOMMY. WHY NOT? IT'LL BE FUN IF NOTHING ELSE!

TIME PASSES, AND ONE DAY, OUT IN SPACE, ROCKET SHIPS PASS A STRANGE BILLBOARD...



The SPACE CLOWN! FUN AND LAUGHS COME ONE COME ALL! TURN RIGHT AT THE NEXT COMET

INTRODUCING THE SPACE CLOWN, ALIAS TOMMY TOMORROW!

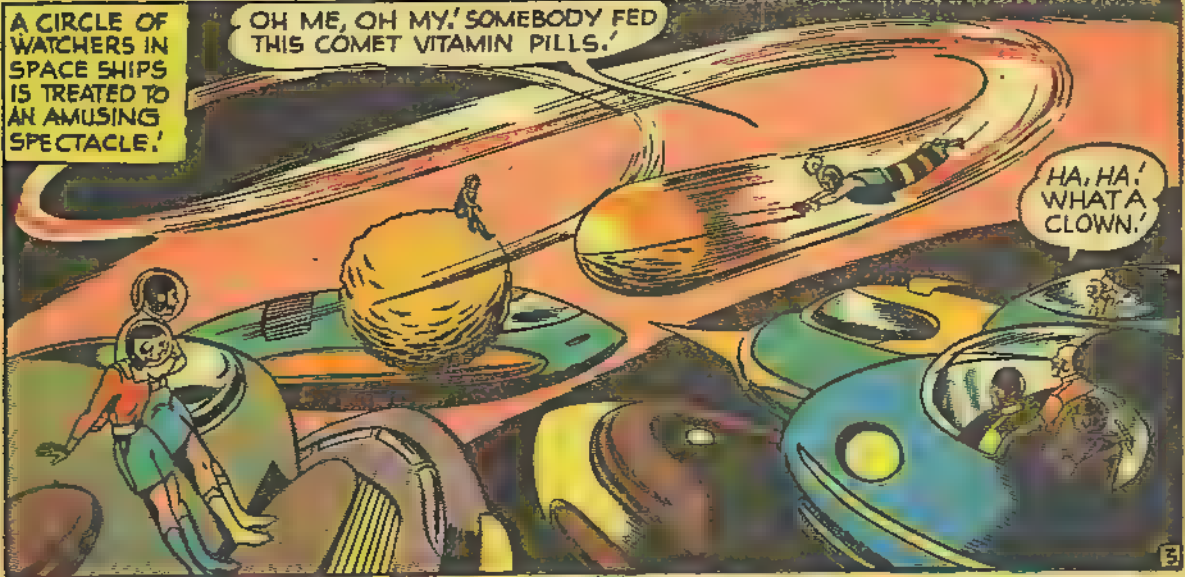


A BIG CROWD! OKAY, TOMMY. LET 'ER GO!

I'LL GIVE 'EM THE RUNAWAY-COMET ROUTINE FIRST!

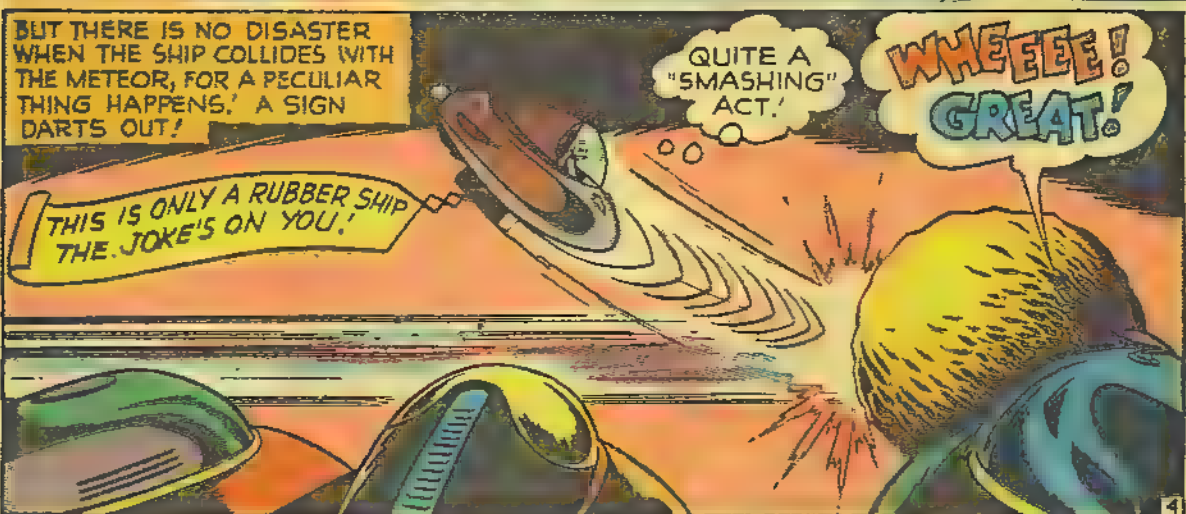
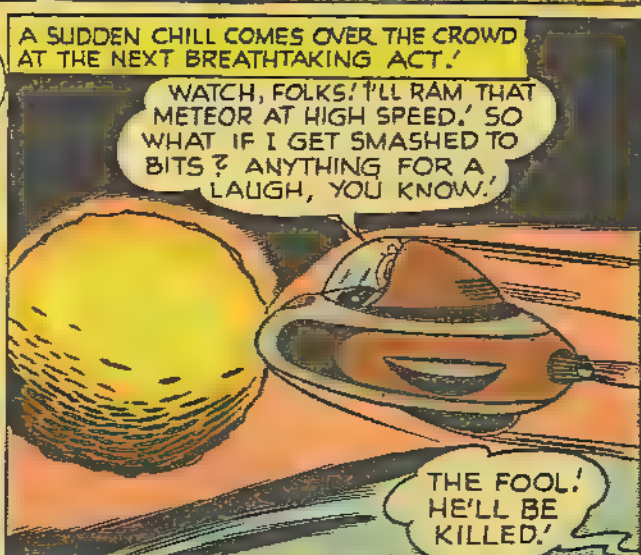
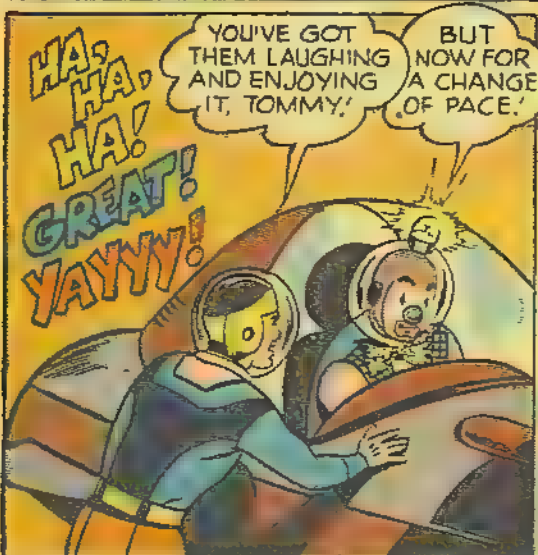
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN-- INTRODUCING THE SPACE CLOWN YOUR MONEY BACK IF YOU DON'T LAUGH!

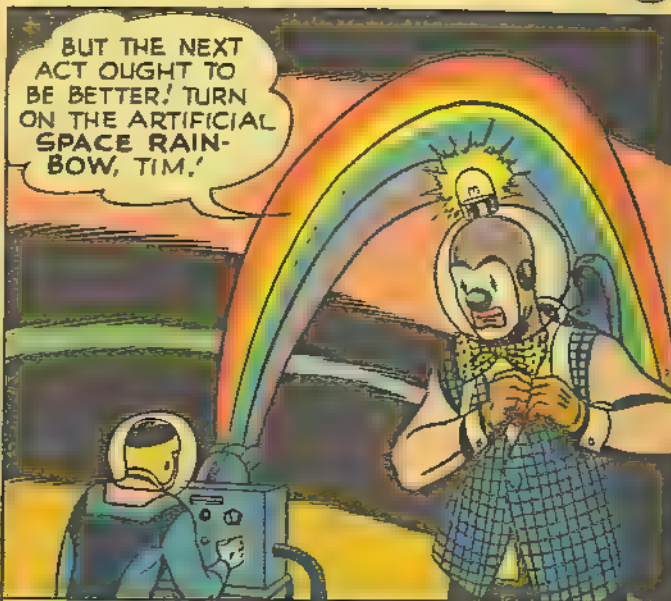
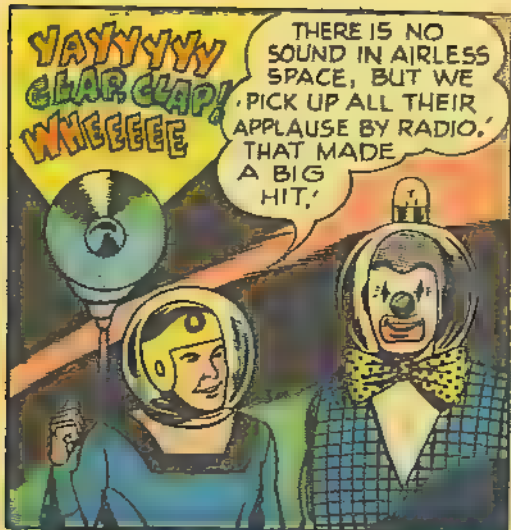
A CIRCLE OF WATCHERS IN SPACE SHIPS IS TREATED TO AN AMUSING SPECTACLE!



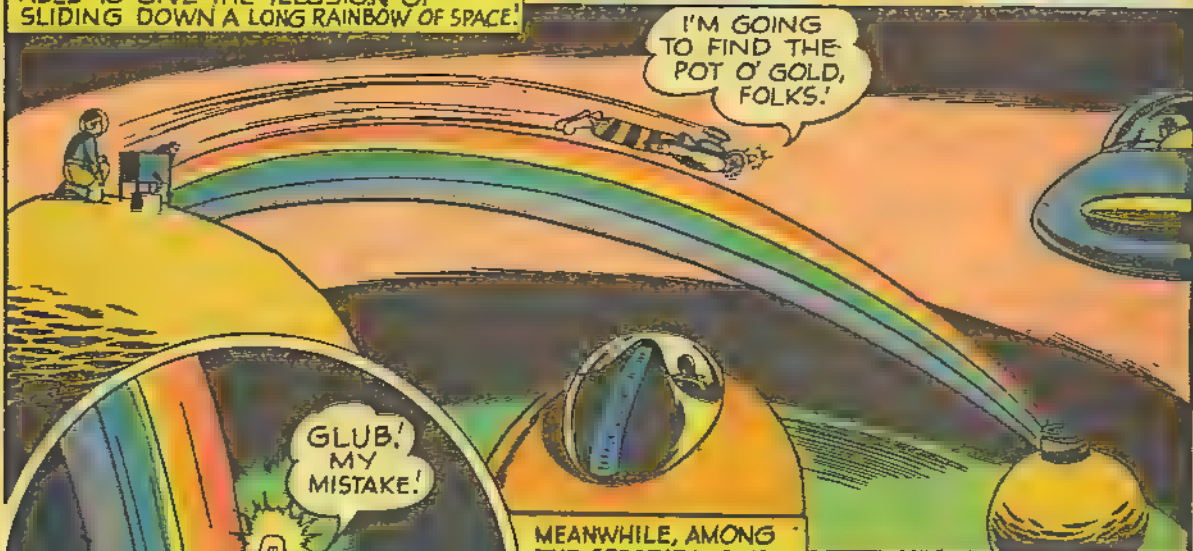
OH ME, OH MY! SOMEBODY FED THIS COMET VITAMIN PILLS!

HA, HA! WHAT A CLOWN!





BY MEANS OF ROCKET PROPULSION, TOMMY (SPACE CLOWN) TOMORROW IS ABLE TO GIVE THE ILLUSION OF SLIDING DOWN A LONG RAINBOW OF SPACE!



MEANWHILE, AMONG THE SPECTATORS IS ONE WHO HAS NOT COME FOR ENTERTAINMENT ALONE — THE SPACE SMUGGLER HIMSELF!

BUT BOSS! WE'RE WASTING TIME WATCHING THIS SPACE CLOWN!

ARE WE, STUPID? WE'VE GOT SOME HOT JEWELS TO SMUGGLE AND HE'S GOING TO HELP US!



WE MUST GET THESE JEWELS TO EARTH FAST! IN A FEW HOURS, THE COSMIC-RAYS OF SPACE WILL MAKE THEM TURN BLACK! BUT WHO WOULD SUSPECT THE SPACE CLOWN OF SMUGGLING? HE CAN EASILY GET PAST THE PLANETEER PATROL! SEE?



AFTER THE SHOW...

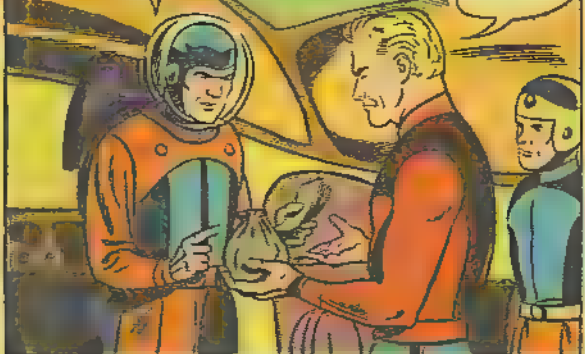
IT WAS A GOOD SHOW, TOMMY! BUT GOSH! FROM PLANETEER TO SPACE CLOWN! WHAT A COME-DOWN FOR YOU!

SKIP IT, TIM! AND DON'T MENTION THAT NAME, PLANETEER-- I HATE IT!



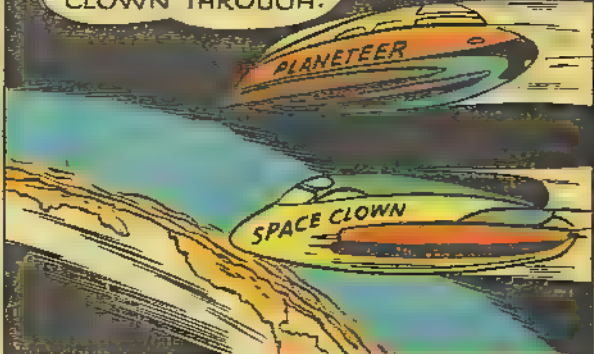
WANT TO MAKE A LITTLE EXTRA MONEY, SPACE CLOWN? DELIVER THIS PACKAGE TO A FRIEND OF MINE, ON EARTH.

SURE, WHY NOT?



AS THE SPACE CLOWN, TOMMY TOMORROW EASILY GETS PAST THE PLANETEER PATROL WITH THE CONTRABAND JEWELS!

LET THE SPACE CLOWN THROUGH!



ON EARTH, AT A CERTAIN ADDRESS...

I WAS PAID TO DELIVER THIS PACKAGE, SIR-- OOPS! I DROPPED IT!

TOMMY! LOOK! JEWELS! WE HELPED SMUGGLERS!



YOU KNOW TOO MUCH, SO NOW YOU GET RAYED DOWN!

WAIT! I'M TOMMY TOMORROW, THE EX-PLANETEER. YOU HEARD HOW THEY KICKED ME OUT IN DISGRACE! I HATE THE PLANETEERS NOW! LET ME JOIN YOUR GANG!



HAVE BITTERNESS AND RESENTMENT FINALLY OVERCOME TOMMY'S BETTER JUDGMENT?

TOMMY--NO! YOU CAN'T TAKE UP CRIME. I--ULP!

SHUT UP TIM! THIS IS MY REVENGE AGAINST THE PLANETEERS. I'LL MAKE FOOLS OF THEM, SMUGGLING JEWELS PAST THEIR NOSES, AS THE SPACE CLOWN!



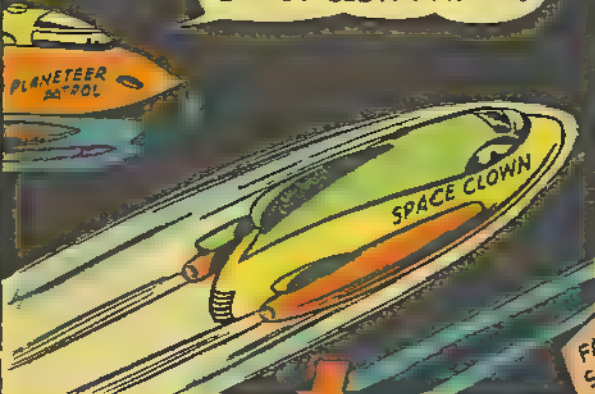
ATTA BOY! WE CAN USE YOU! I'LL RADIO THE BOSS. YOU MEET HIM OUT IN SPACE AND PICK UP ANOTHER BATCH OF JEWELS. WE'LL CUT YOU IN!

AGREED!



AND SOON, TOMMY AGAIN ROCKETS PAST THE PLANETEER PATROL TO A RENDEZVOUS WITH CRIME!

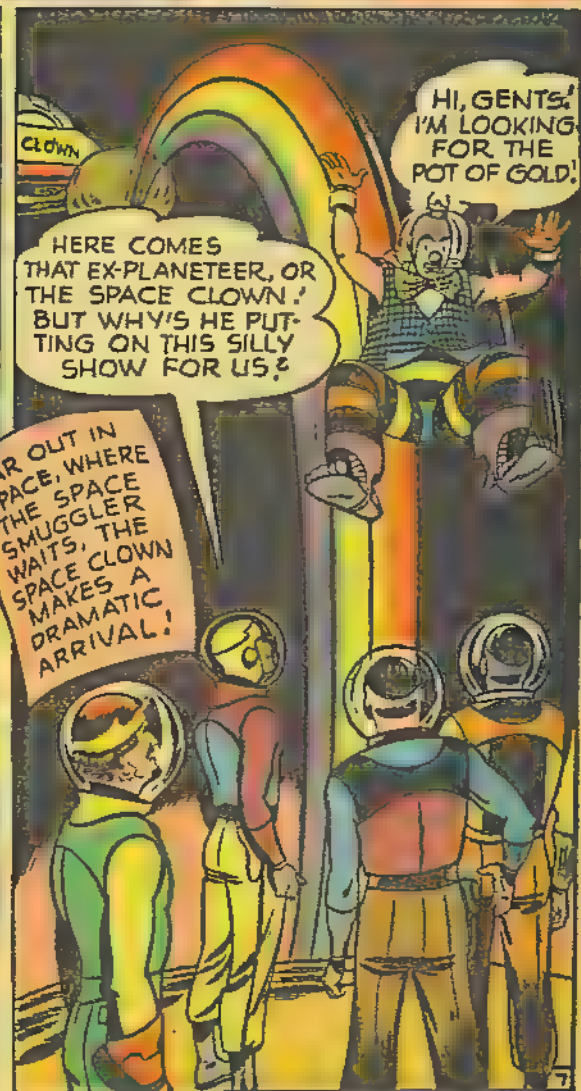
THERE GOES THE SPACE CLOWN AGAIN!



TIM HAS ACCOMPANIED HIS BROTHER, DESPERATELY HOPING TO CHANGE HIS MIND!

TOMMY, DON'T HELP THE SPACE SMUGGLERS--HEY! WHAT ARE YOU PUTTING ON YOUR CLOWN SUIT FOR?

WE'RE GOING TO GIVE OUR GREATEST AND LAST PERFORMANCE NOW, TIM. GET READY WITH YOUR PROPS.



HI, GENTS! I'M LOOKING FOR THE POT OF GOLD!

HERE COMES THAT EX-PLANETEER, OR THE SPACE CLOWN! BUT WHY'S HE PUTTING ON THIS SILLY SHOW FOR US?

FAR OUT IN SPACE, WHERE THE SPACE SMUGGLER WAITS, THE SPACE CLOWN MAKES A DRAMATIC ARRIVAL!

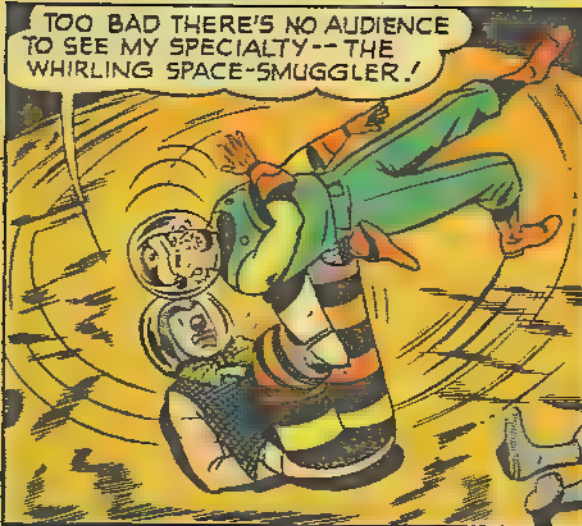


LOOKS LIKE I FOUND A NEST OF SNAKES!

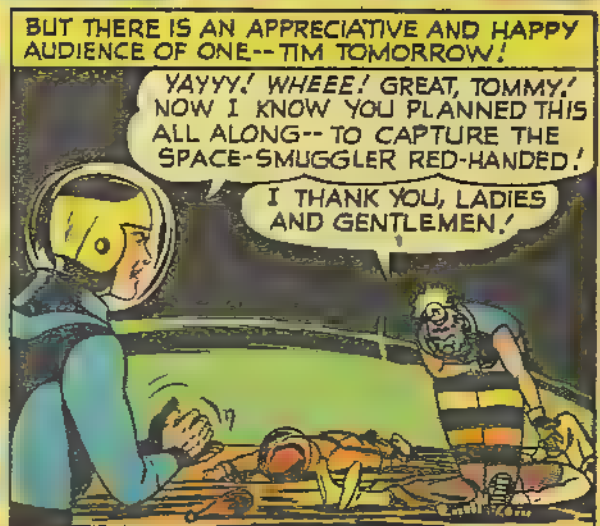
GET THAT CLOWN! RAY HIM DOWN!



I SMUGGLED ALONG THESE CLUBS IN MY CLOWN-SUIT! HOW ABOUT A LITTLE JUGGLING ACT?



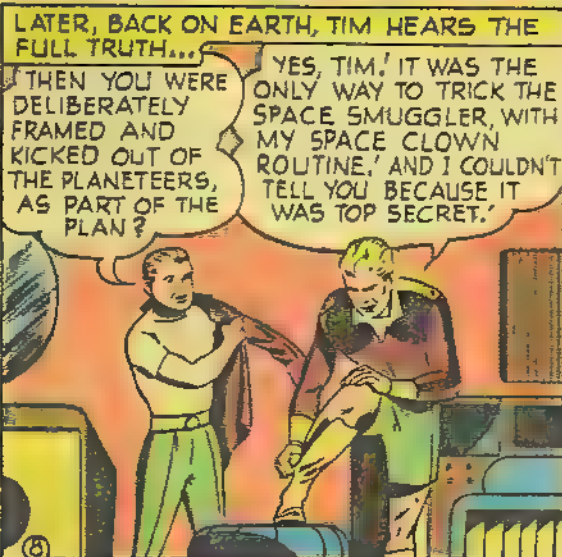
TOO BAD THERE'S NO AUDIENCE TO SEE MY SPECIALTY-- THE WHIRLING SPACE-SMUGGLER!



BUT THERE IS AN APPRECIATIVE AND HAPPY AUDIENCE OF ONE-- TIM TOMORROW!

YAYYY! WHEEE! GREAT, TOMMY! NOW I KNOW YOU PLANNED THIS ALL ALONG-- TO CAPTURE THE SPACE-SMUGGLER RED-HANDED!

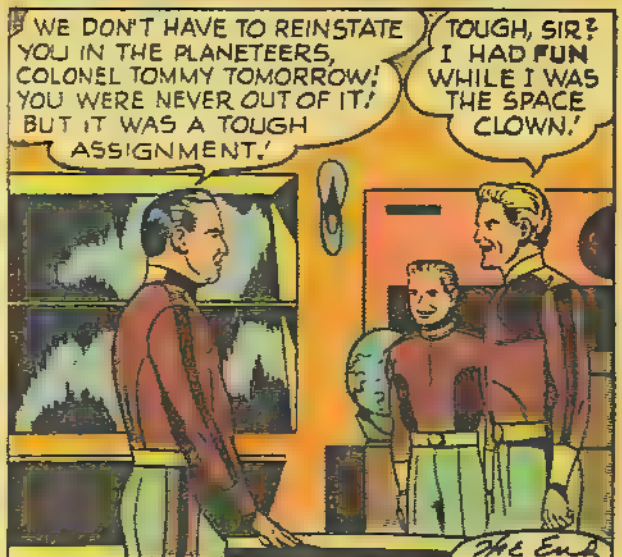
I THANK YOU, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!



LATER, BACK ON EARTH, TIM HEARS THE FULL TRUTH...

THEN YOU WERE DELIBERATELY FRAMED AND KICKED OUT OF THE PLANETEERS, AS PART OF THE PLAN?

YES, TIM! IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO TRICK THE SPACE SMUGGLER, WITH MY SPACE CLOWN ROUTINE, AND I COULDN'T TELL YOU BECAUSE IT WAS TOP SECRET.



WE DON'T HAVE TO REINSTATE YOU IN THE PLANETEERS, COLONEL TOMMY TOMORROW! YOU WERE NEVER OUT OF IT! BUT IT WAS A TOUGH ASSIGNMENT.

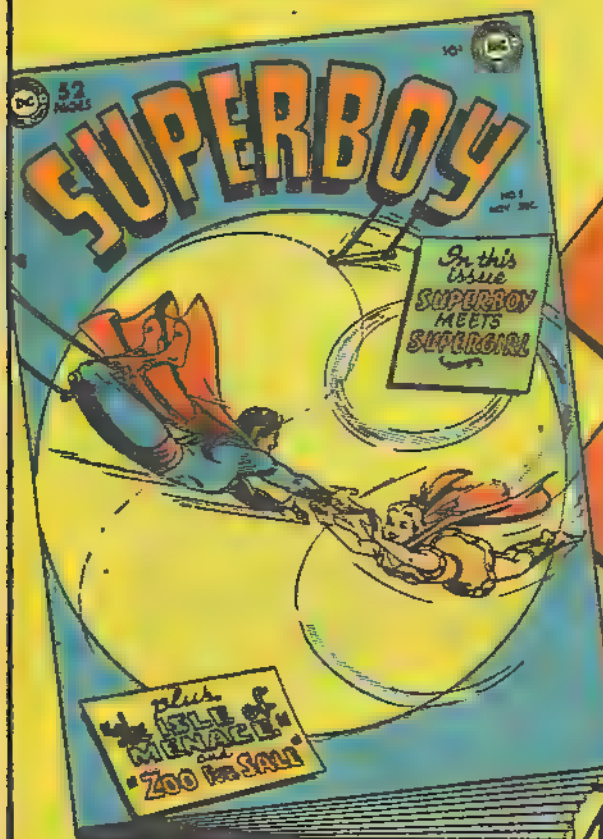
TOUGH, SIR? I HAD FUN WHILE I WAS THE SPACE CLOWN!

The End

3 SMASH ADVENTURES

OF **SUPERMAN** WHEN HE WAS A BOY
IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF

SUPERBOY
MAGAZINE



"SUPERBOY
MEETS
SUPERGIRL"

"ISLE OF
MENACE"

"ZOO
FOR SALE"

DON'T
MISS
THIS GREAT
ISSUE!

Now ON SALE EVERYWHERE

SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Pluto No. 8)

UISM LMUWKZIKG EW-
ZS: JG TQDQVO QB, GWC
OQDM GWCZ JMAB BW
BPM JMAB KICAM QV
BPM EWZTL!

SUPERMAN,
c/o ACTION COMICS
480 LEXINGTON AVENUE, N. Y. C. 17, N. Y.

Jan.

Dear Superman:

Please enroll me as a Member of the SUPERMEN of AMERICA. I enclose 10c to cover cost of mailing. It is understood that I am to receive my Membership Certificate, Emblem and Superman Code.

NAME AGE

STREET ADDRESS.....

CITY..... ZONE..... STATE.....

The TEXAS RANGERS

IT WAS 1835. THE INFANT REPUBLIC OF TEXAS SPRAWLED UNDER THE BLAZING SUN. BANDITS FROM ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE BORDER, AND WAR-PAINTED COMANCHE INDIANS MADE LIVING HAZARDOUS. OUT OF THIS CHAOS OF FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY ROSE THE TEXAS RANGER. FOR A HUNDRED YEARS HE RODE THE SADDLE, DARING, DEADLY AND DETERMINED TO RID THE LAND OF THESE KILLER PESTS. IN THE END, HE MADE HIS NAME ONE TO BE FEARED AND RESPECTED.



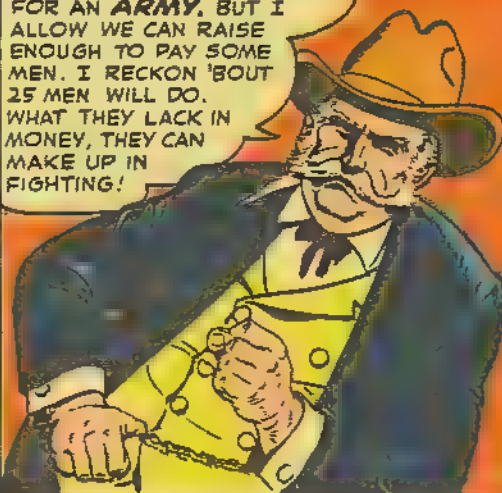
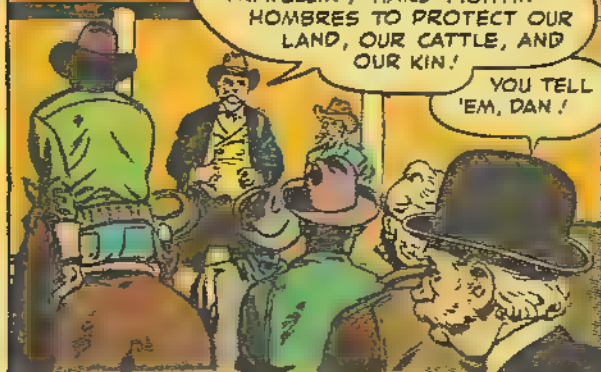
SAN FELIPE, THIS FALL DAY IN 1835, HEARD DAN PARKER'S FIRST RINGING CHALLENGE TO LAWLESSNESS...

HOT

GENTS, WE TEXANS HAVE BEEN HAVIN' A POWERFUL LOT OF TROUBLE. WE NEED A GROUP OF FAST-TRAVELLIN', HARD FIGHTIN' HOMBRES TO PROTECT OUR LAND, OUR CATTLE, AND OUR KIN!

YOU TELL 'EM, DAN!

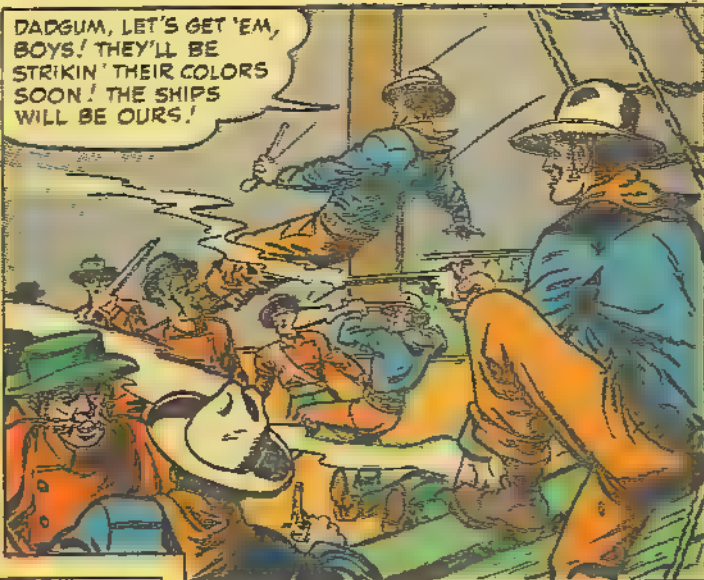
WE DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY FOR AN ARMY. BUT I ALLOW WE CAN RAISE ENOUGH TO PAY SOME MEN. I RECKON 'BOUT 25 MEN WILL DO. WHAT THEY LACK IN MONEY, THEY CAN MAKE UP IN FIGHTING!



THUS THE FIRST POLICE FORCE WAS ORGANIZED. THE "HORSE MARINES," THESE EARLY RANGERS WERE AFFECTIONATELY NAMED FOR THEIR FEAT IN CAPTURING THREE MEXICAN VESSELS IN COPANO BAY...



DADGUM, LET'S GET 'EM, BOYS! THEY'LL BE STRIKIN' THEIR COLORS SOON! THE SHIPS WILL BE OURS!

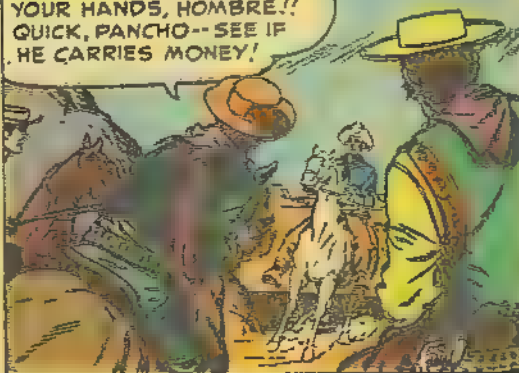


UNDER COMMAND OF COL. JOHN C. HAYS, "THE RANGING SERVICE" WAS EXPANDED. ROOKIES NEEDED ONLY A HORSE "WORTH MORE THAN \$100," A RIFLE AND TWO PISTOLS, TO JOIN. BATTLES WITH MARAUDING COMANCHES WERE FREQUENT...



IN THE CHISOS BASIN, AND ALONG THE RIO GRANDE, ALMOST EVERYWHERE, BANDITS WERE LEARNING THAT A RIDER WITH A STAR ON HIS VEST WAS MIGHTY TOUGH TO HANDLE...FOR INSTANCE...

THROW UP YOUR HANDS, HOMBRE!! QUICK, PANCHO--SEE IF HE CARRIES MONEY!



SURE, I'LL THROW UP MY HANDS, YUH COYOTES--WITH MY PISTOLS!

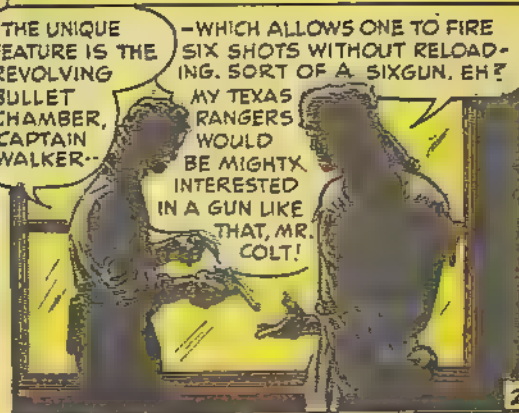
CARAMBA! THE HOMBRE SPEAKS BULLETS!



MEANWHILE, 3000 MILES ACROSS THE COUNTRY, A MAN BY THE NAME OF SAMUEL COLT HAD INVENTED A WEAPON HE CALLED A "REVOLVER."

THE UNIQUE FEATURE IS THE REVOLVING BULLET CHAMBER, CAPTAIN WALKER--

--WHICH ALLOWS ONE TO FIRE SIX SHOTS WITHOUT RELOADING. SORT OF A SIXGUN, EH? MY TEXAS RANGERS WOULD BE MIGHTY INTERESTED IN A GUN LIKE THAT, MR. COLT!



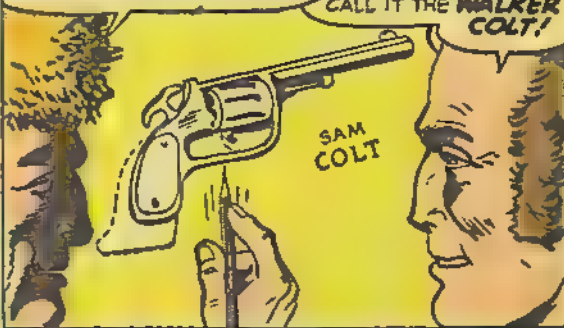
YES, SIR, I'LL BUY EVERY ONE OF THESE HERE REVOLVERS WE CAN LAY OUR HANDS ON. WHY, SIR, WITH THIS SHOOTIN' IRON, MY BOYS WILL LIVE A LOT LONGER AND NOT ALLOW THAT PLEASURE TO A LOT OF CRITTERS WHO DON'T DESERVE IT. BUT I HAVE A FEW SUGGESTIONS IF YOU DON'T MIND

ONLY TOO GLAD TO LISTEN, CAPTAIN



YOU SEE, IF YOU MAKE THE REVOLVER HEAVIER, RESHAPE THE BUTT TO FIT BETTER INTO A MAN'S HAND, REPLACE THIS DISAPPEARING TRIGGER WITH A REGULAR ONE...

SPLENDID CAPTAIN, SPLENDID. I'M MOST GRATEFUL AND TO SHOW YOU MY APPRECIATION, I'LL CALL IT THE **WALKER COLT!**



THE COLT WAS PRECISELY THE EQUIPMENT THE RANGERS NEEDED. FOR WITH THIS SIX-SHOOTER, ONE RANGER WAS EQUAL TO TWELVE MEN!

LIGHT DOWN, VARMINTS! MY TWO HOGLEGS ARE MORE'N A MATCH FOR YOU!



IN 1845, WHEN TEXAS JOINED THE UNION, MEXICO DECLARED WAR ON THE UNITED STATES. THE RANGERS SPED TO OFFER THEIR AID TO GENERAL TAYLOR.

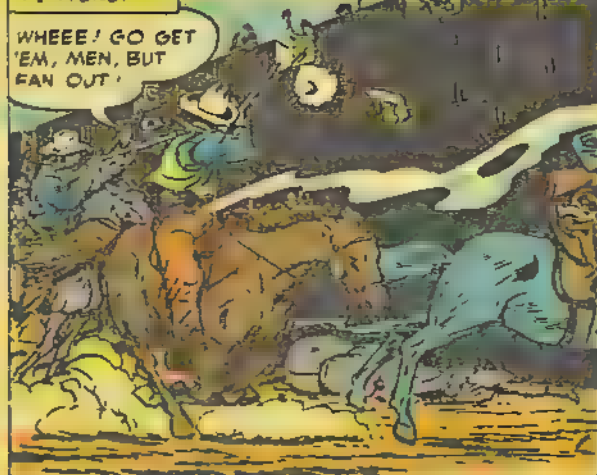
MIGHTY PROUD TO HAVE YOU AND YOUR RANGERS WITH US, COLONEL!

I THINK WE CAN BE HELPFUL. YOU SEE, THIS IS THE TERRAIN WE KNOW BEST, SIR!



SOON, RANGERS STORMED THE GAUNT WALLS OF MONTEREY

WHEEE! GO GET 'EM, MEN, BUT FAN OUT!



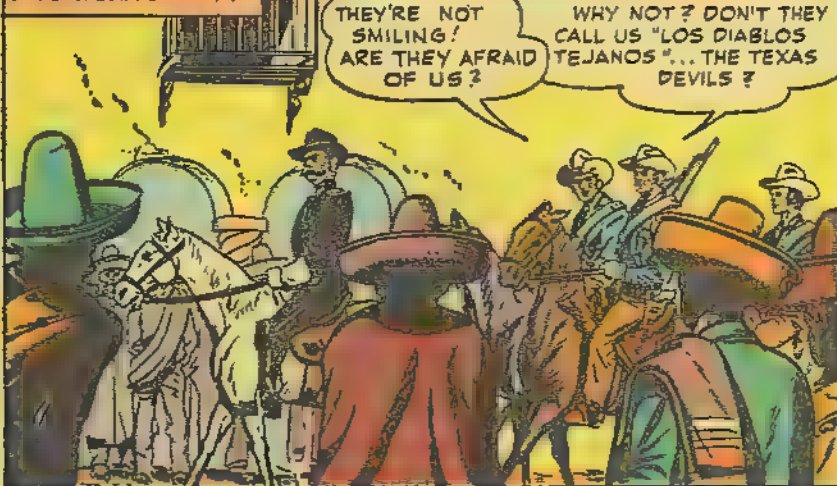
IN FIERCE HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT, THEY SHATTERED THE FAMED MEXICAN LANCERS...



...UNTIL, UNDER GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT, THEY RODE TRIUMPHANTLY INTO MEXICO CITY.

THEY'RE NOT SMILING! ARE THEY AFRAID OF US?

WHY NOT? DON'T THEY CALL US "LOS DIABLOS TEJANOS"... THE TEXAS DEVILS?



THEIR CONQUESTS SOON FORGOTTEN, THE RANGERS SANK INTO OBLIVION AS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROMISED PROTECTION AGAINST BANDITS AND INDIANS WHO STILL RAVAGED THE WEST. BUT WHEN TROUBLE BROKE AND HELP DIDN'T ARRIVE, RANGERS ONCE AGAIN RALLIED IN THE LONE STAR STATE.



AT THE CANADIAN RIVER, THEY CRUSHED A VASTLY SUPERIOR FORCE OF COMANCHES...

LOOK AT THAT CRITTER WEARING JACKET, THEIR CHIEF. HE LIKES METAL SO MUCH, I'LL GIVE HIM SOME OF MY LEAD BULLETS.

THAT'S IRON JACKET, THEIR CHIEF. HE LIKES METAL SO MUCH, I'LL GIVE HIM SOME OF MY LEAD BULLETS.



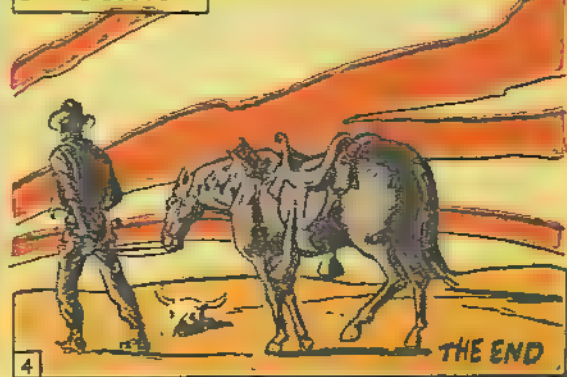
IN SOUTHERN TEXAS, THEY SMASHED THE LAST REMNANTS OF AN OUTLAW BAND...



AT ROUND ROCK, THEY CORNERED SAM BASS AND HIS GUNMEN, MORTALLY WOUNDING THE NOTORIOUS OUTLAW AND KILLING ONE OF HIS MEN OUTRIGHT...



THUS, IN CITY OR ON PRAIRIE, FROM THE RIO GRANDE TO THE BRAZOS, THEY RODE THE LONELY TRAILS, THE STACCATO CHATTER OF THEIR GUNS STILLING THE VOICE OF CRIME. NOT BY NAME ALONE BUT BY DEED DID THE FAME OF THE RANGERS SPREAD FROM TEXAS, TO THE CORNERS OF THE GLOBE.



SUPERBOY says

"GIVE YOUR TOWN A PRESENT!"

SMALLVILLE, HOME OF SUPERBOY, IS VISITED BY A GROUP OF OUT-OF-TOWN CIVIC LEADERS...

WE'RE ANXIOUS TO SEE THE KIND OF VOLUNTEER WORK THAT THE BOYS AND GIRLS HERE HAVE DONE TO MAKE THIS A MODEL TOWN.

AND I'VE VOLUNTEERED TO SHOW YOU!

TOWN H

MOMENTS LATER...

WELL! THIS IS SERVICE DE LUXE! THIS TYPE OF RAPID TRANSPORTATION ISN'T AVAILABLE IN OTHER TOWNS, I'M SURE!

FIRST STOP-- SMALLVILLE HOSPITAL...

THESE GIRLS PREPARE BANDAGES, SET UP TRAYS, FIX FLOWERS FOR PATIENTS, AND READ TO THEM.

I'M THINKING OF BEING A NURSE SOME DAY-- AND THIS IS A GOOD WAY OF LEARNING AS WELL AS BEING USEFUL.

NEXT-- SMALLVILLE MUSEUM...

WE'RE MAKING POSTERS ADVERTISING A NEW EXHIBIT NEXT WEEK.

I'M LEAVING NOW TO MAKE CLOTHES FOR THE YOUNGSTERS AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME.

SOME GET SCHOOL CREDIT FOR THEIR WORK, OTHERS DO IT JUST AS A HOBBY, BUT IN EITHER CASE THEY'RE HELPING THE TOWN!

THEN, A SCHOOL PLAYGROUND...

THERE'S AN OLDER BOY WHO'S HELPING THE COACH TEACH BEGINNERS FOOTBALL. HE'S PERFORMING A USEFUL FUNCTION-- AND AT THE SAME TIME GETTING VALUABLE EXPERIENCE HIMSELF.

FINALLY, AT THE END OF THE RAPID TOUR...

THESE ARE ONLY SOME OF THE VOLUNTEER JOBS THE BOYS AND GIRLS HAVE UNDERTAKEN. SOME ARE BUSY NOW REHEARSING A RADIO PROGRAM TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE COMMUNITY CHEST, OTHERS ARE WRITING COPY FOR THEIR WEEKLY COLUMN IN OUR NEWSPAPER.

THERE'S A VOLUNTEER JOB FOR YOUNGSTERS IN EVERY TOWN. PITCH IN AND HELP MAKE YOUR TOWN A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN!

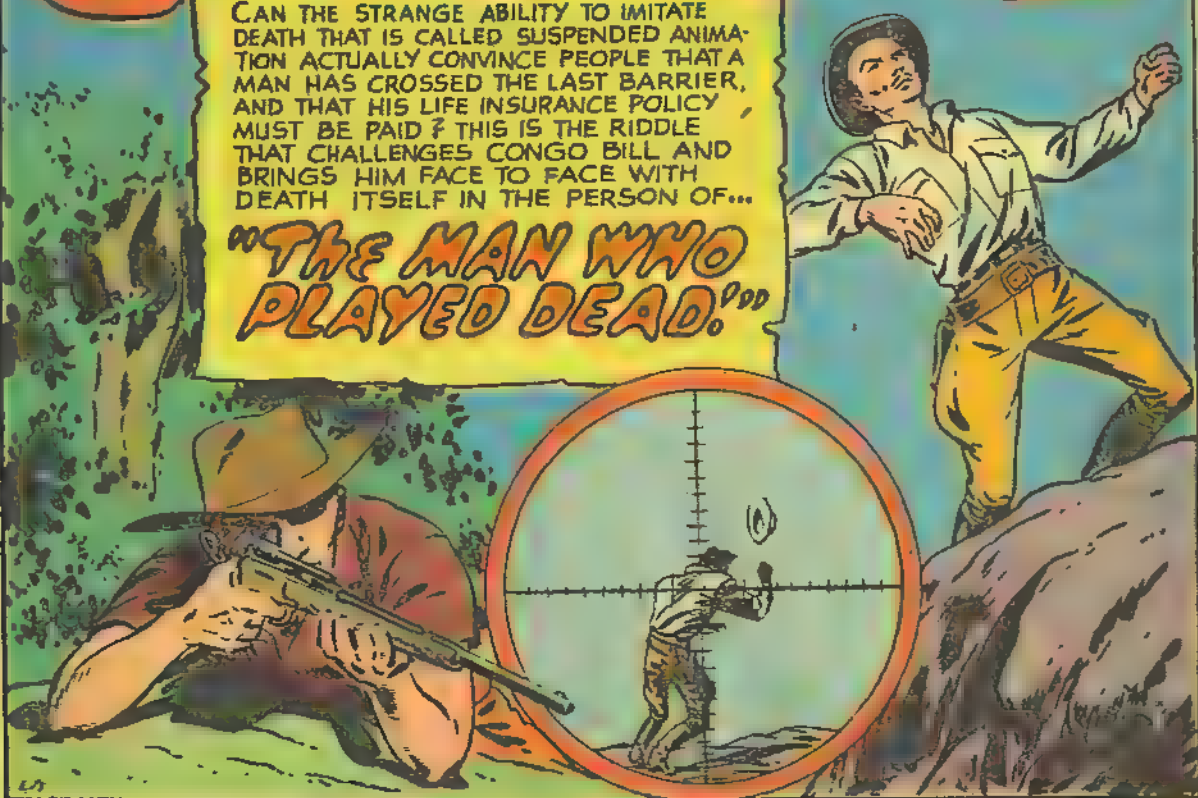


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CONGO BILL

CAN THE STRANGE ABILITY TO IMITATE DEATH THAT IS CALLED SUSPENDED ANIMATION ACTUALLY CONVINCE PEOPLE THAT A MAN HAS CROSSED THE LAST BARRIER, AND THAT HIS LIFE INSURANCE POLICY MUST BE PAID? THIS IS THE RIDDLE THAT CHALLENGES CONGO BILL AND BRINGS HIM FACE TO FACE WITH DEATH ITSELF IN THE PERSON OF...

"THE MAN WHO PLAYED DEAD."



IN THE HIMALAYAN MOUNTAIN TEMPLES OF TIBET, EXPLORER JOHN BLEDSOE LEARNED MANY SECRETS, INCLUDING THE ONE OF IMITATING DEATH-- IN OTHER WORDS, SUSPENDED ANIMATION.

SO THAT'S HOW THEY MAKE THEMSELVES LOOK LIKE DEAD MEN. IT INVOLVES MUSCULAR AND MENTAL CONTROL ALMOST SUPERHUMAN, BUT I'LL TRY IT.



IN TIME, JOHN BLEDSOE LEARNED THE TRICK. TO HIM IT WAS JUST A STUNT. THEN ONE DAY...

I'M BROKE! MY INVESTMENTS ALL FAILED! I'VE GOT TO RAISE SOME MONEY, BUT HOW? Hmm... I HAVE IT! I'LL TAKE OUT AN INSURANCE POLICY, FAKE MY DEATH, AND COLLECT!



SOME DAYS LATER, IN THE CAPETOWN OFFICES OF *WORLD WIDE INSURANCE COMPANY*, WHILE CONGO BILL AND "BAD NEWS" HALEY ARE ADMIRING A STATUETTE...

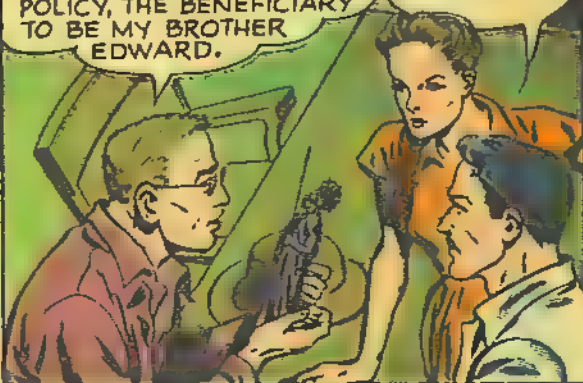
A FINE EXAMPLE OF AFRICAN ART, BAD NEWS. CARVED OUT OF PURE EBONY BY A MATEBELE TRIBESMAN!

IT OUGHT TO GO TO SOME ART GALLERY, CONGO BILL!



AS GOOD AN EXAMPLE AS I'VE EVER SEEN, AND I'VE EXPLORED THE ODD CORNERS OF THE GLOBE FOR THIRTY YEARS. HOWEVER--I CAME HERE TO TAKE OUT AN INSURANCE POLICY, THE BENEFICIARY TO BE MY BROTHER EDWARD.

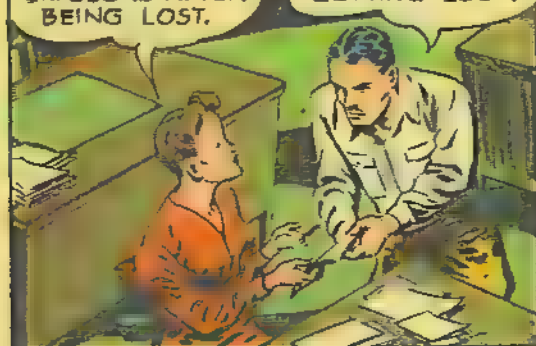
MISS HALEY WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU, MR. BLEDSOE.



FIVE MONTHS LATER, *WORLD WIDE* IS NOTIFIED OF EXPLORER JOHN BLEDSOE'S DEATH..

HE DIED IN THE ZAMBEBWE REGION, OF SHOCK AND EXPOSURE AFTER BEING LOST.

THAT'S STRANGE. AN EXPLORER AS EXPERIENCED AS BLEDSOE GETTING LOST!

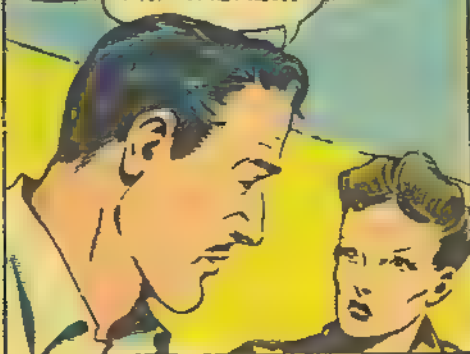


DO YOU THINK IT'S A FRAUDULENT CLAIM, CONGO BILL? SHOULD WE REFUSE TO PAY?

I WASN'T THINKING OF FRAUD. I WAS THINKING OF MURDER!



LOOK. HIS BROTHER EDWARD LIVES NEAR THE VELDT. I THINK I'LL ASK PERMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THAT DIAMOND SHIPMENT THAT WAS STOLEN IN THAT VICINITY, AND DROP IN AND CHECK ON BROTHER EDWARD WHILE I'M THERE...



LATER THAT WEEK, AS CONGO BILL IS CROSSING THE TIMBERED BELT OF THE TRANSVAAL, HIS FOOT CATCHES IN A TWISTED VINE, AND HE PLUNGES GROUNDWARD...

WOW! I REALLY TWISTED MY ANKLE THIS TIME!



A RHINOCEROS THUNDERS TOWARD THE MOMENTARILY HELPLESS CONGO BILL...



BUT SUDDENLY THE WHIPLIKE CRACK OF A HIGH-POWERED RIFLE IS HEARD! AND THE RHINO LURCHES SIDWAYS, MORTALLY WOUNDED!

WHEW! WHOEVER FIRED THAT SHOT MUST HAVE GOOD EYES! HE'S AT A DISTANCE, FOR I DON'T SEE HIM ANYWHERE.



YOU HAVE GOOD EYES, FRIEND. SAY—YOU LOOK ENOUGH LIKE JOHN BLEDSOE TO BE THAT TWIN BROTHER HE SPOKE ABOUT.



A SULLEN LOOK CROSSES EDWARD BLEDSOE'S FACE, ALMOST AS IF HE WERE SORRY HE HAD SAVED CONGO BILL'S LIFE!

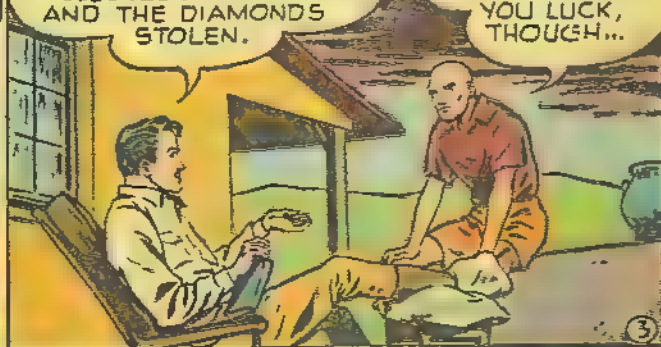
FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS, THE MAN FROM WORLD WIDE RELAXES...

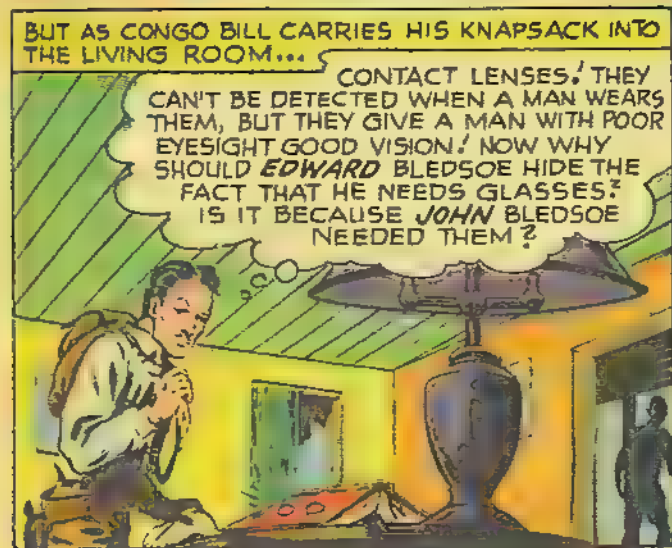
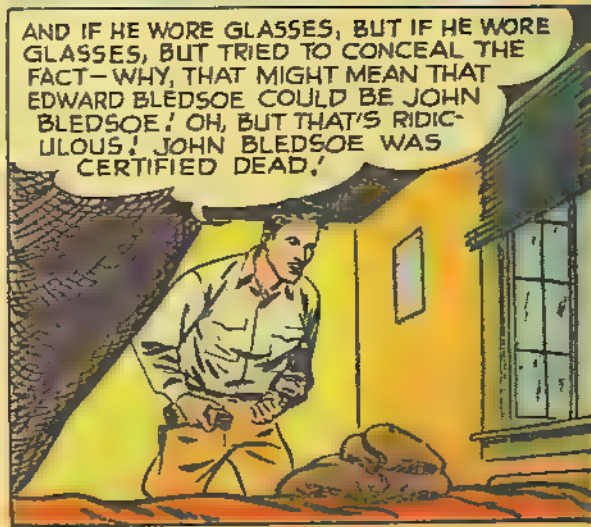
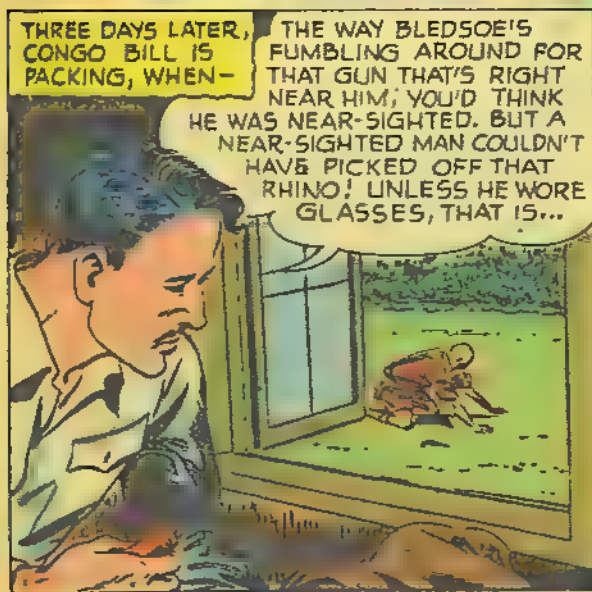
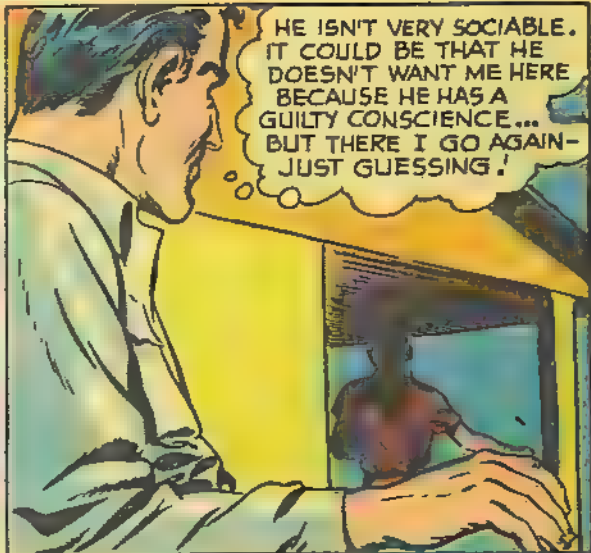
I'M CONGO BILL. YOU ARE EDWARD BLEDSOE, AREN'T YOU?

THAT'S RIGHT. WE'RE TWINS. I GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO COME ALONG TO MY VELD'T RANCH. THAT ANKLE IS IN BAD SHAPE.

I'M OUT THIS WAY TO INVESTIGATE A DIAMOND THEFT, WE INSURED BOTH THE MESSENGER AND THE DIAMONDS. THE MESSENGER WAS KILLED AND THE DIAMONDS STOLEN.

HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FROM THE NATIVES. THEY USUALLY KNOW A LOT THAT GOES ON, TOO. I WISH YOU LUCK, THOUGH...





SOME HOURS LATER, AS CONGO BILL HEADS UP A MOUNTAIN TRAIL...

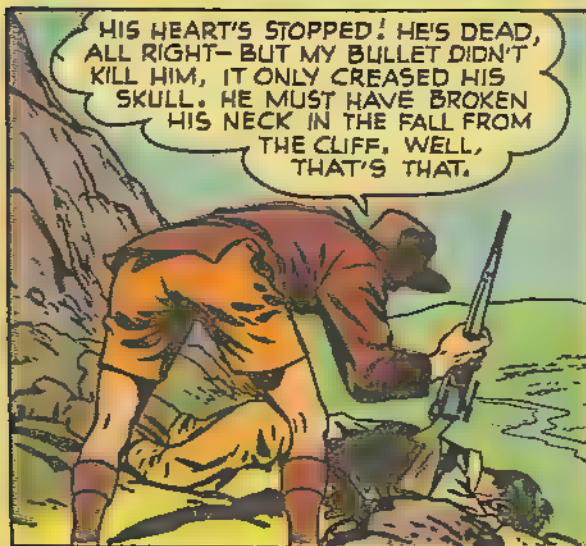
HE'S FOLLOWING ME! HE'S AFRAID OF ME—FOR SOME REASON & HE WOULDN'T BE AFRAID IF HE WERE INNOCENT! I CAN SEE HIM BEHIND ME WITH THIS MIRROR!



FOR ONE INSTANT, CONGO BILL IS FRAMED IN THE CROSS-HAIRS OF BLED SOE'S TELESCOPIC SIGHTS. BLED SOE SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER AND THE HIGH-POWERED ELEPHANT GUN ROARS!



HIS HEART'S STOPPED! HE'S DEAD, ALL RIGHT—BUT MY BULLET DIDN'T KILL HIM, IT ONLY CREASED HIS SKULL. HE MUST HAVE BROKEN HIS NECK IN THE FALL FROM THE CLIFF, WELL, THAT'S THAT.



I'LL GET RID OF HIM ONCE AND FOR ALL! HE KNOWS I WEAR GLASSES. HE MIGHT PUT TWO AND TWO TOGETHER AND FIGURE OUT THAT I'M JOHN BLED SOE—WHO IS SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD!



SIX HOURS LATER, BLED SOE DIGS UP A PATCH OF LOOSE DIRT IN HIS BACK YARD...

I THINK I'D BETTER TAKE THOSE DIAMONDS I STOLE AND MAKE TRACKS FOR AMERICA. I'LL CHANGE MY NAME AND LOSE MYSELF. NO WORLD WIDE AGENT WILL EVER FIND ME AGAIN...



WHEN BLEDSOE LEFT CONGO BILL, HE LAY MOTIONLESS... BUT ONLY FOR A MOMENT. THEN BILL STIRRED FAINTLY, AS THOUGH SLOWLY RECOVERING CONSCIOUSNESS, AND SAT UP...

I HAD TO PLAY DEAD WHILE HE WAS BENDING OVER ME, OR HE'D HAVE SHOT ME FOR GOOD. FORTUNATELY, I LEARNED THE TRICK OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION ONE TIME IN TIBET...



SAY, JOHN BLEDSOE WAS AN EXPLORER. I REMEMBER IN THE DOSSIER ON HIS LIFE ON FILE AT WORLD WIDE THAT HE SPENT SOME YEARS IN TIBET. MAYBE HE LEARNED SUSPENDED ANIMATION, TOO!



WHAT BEAUTIES! ALL FLAWLESS DIAMONDS! IT WAS A GOOD DAY FOR ME WHEN I KILLED THAT MESSENGER AND MADE THIS HAUL--ALMOST AS GOOD AS THE DAY I BOUGHT THAT WORLD WIDE POLICY.

I WOULDN'T SAY THAT, BLEDSOE!



YOU, BUT YOU'RE DEAD!

NO MORE THAN YOU ARE, JOHN BLEDSOE! YOU FOOLED WORLD WIDE WITH THAT SUSPENDED ANIMATION STUNT--AND I FOOLED YOU!

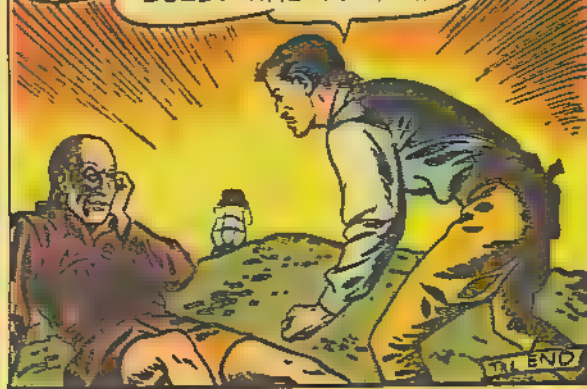


YOU CAN'T PROVE WHO I AM! YOU'LL NEVER GET YOUR MONEY BACK FOR WORLD WIDE--GNNNGGG!

OH, BUT I WILL!



YOU LEFT YOUR FINGERPRINTS ON THAT EBONY STATUETTE IN MY DESK DRAWER IN THE CAPETOWN OFFICE. ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TAKE A FINGERPRINT TEST, AND THAT WILL PROVE WITHOUT DOUBT WHO YOU ARE.





Heavens Above!

SOMETIME next Summer or Fall, on a clear night, go out into your yard, or up to your roof, and look at the stars. Take in as much as you can of the dome of night sky above you.

You will experience many different feelings as you gaze up into the endless patterns of stars. And it will be difficult to realize as you look that Earth is another pin point in the universe like all the planets and stars above.

You wonder what those stars, twinkling so far above you, are made of—if man can ever reach one of them. Will a trip to the moon some day be a reality? Do people like ourselves perhaps inhabit the planet Mars? All these, and countless other questions will come into your mind the longer you peer at the heavens on a bright night.

You know that the stars and planets are very far away, but do you know how to compare their distances with relation to how long it would take to get to them from Earth? Think of our fastest method of transportation today. The airplane, of course. Let's take a plane that flies at 200 miles per hour.

And now, let's assume that our destination is the nearest star. The planets are all

much nearer than the nearest star, of course, but our goal is the star closest to Earth. We are in an airplane flying continuously at 200 miles per hour. And at that rate we shall arrive at that star in exactly *twelve million years*. Change your mind? The moon is only seven weeks away by the same means of transportation, and the sun 53 years.

The two places scientists are most interested in at present are the moon, which is a relatively short distance away from us—and Mars, where it is believed some sort of life exists. The planets are distinct from the stars in several ways. They merely give off the reflected light of the sun, just as the moon does.

There are nine planets and possibly more, as yet undiscovered. Up until 1930, there were only eight planets, until Pluto was discovered. There are four planets, Mercury, Venus, Mars and Pluto, which closely resemble our own planet, Earth and these are called "terrestrial planets," terra in Latin meaning "earth."

We know much less about the stars because they have no visibly fixed pattern of movement, while the planets move in an orderly fashion eastward around the sun.

The stars do not depend upon the sun's light because they are themselves huge balloons of incandescent gas which give out their own heat and light.

The stars, although spoken of as "fixed"—that is, without changing movement—are actually moving through space. But they are so far away that until now it has been impossible to chart their movements excepting over very many years.

And now, if you have become intrigued with the motions of the universe and our part in this vast drama of the skies, perhaps you would be interested in seeing a planetarium at work. If you are near any of the five great planetariums in this country, it will be well worth your while to visit one of them, not once, but many times if possible. You need not be an astronomer or a celestial navigation student to enjoy tremendously the sights to be seen at the planetarium.

Let's take the Hayden Planetarium in New York City. You enter a great domed room to await the show. Gradually the lights dim; and suddenly the dome above us darkens and thousands of stars come out, as brilliant and exciting to behold as the real stars on a clear night from a country hill top!

For forty minutes, the lecturer uses his electric pointer as a guide, and we follow his descriptions of the starry spaces above us. The moon rises and the planets pass across the pattern of the stars; we see a comet journeying away from the sun with its tail a blazing mass of light before its head. Showers of meteors drift silently down through the heavens' clearness, and the aurora piles higher and higher its great moving mountains of light and color.

Now, the speaker's voice breaks our dream by telling us that dawn is on its way. In the east appears a flush of light which means the arrival of the sun, and then, from beyond the horizon comes the sun. It is day. Into a very short time you have crowded an experience breathtaking in its scope.

It has all been accomplished by brilliant architecture and engineering. The principal feature of the Hayden Planetarium and the device that makes this an astronomical museum is the projection instrument. It is installed in a hemispherical dome 75 feet in diameter and lined with perforated stainless steel, painted white. The instrument is placed in the center of the room and contains a series of projectors which throw on the artificial sky the fixed stars, sun, moon, planets, and the Milky Way. Since there are no pillars to block the light, the illusion of the depth of space is perfect.

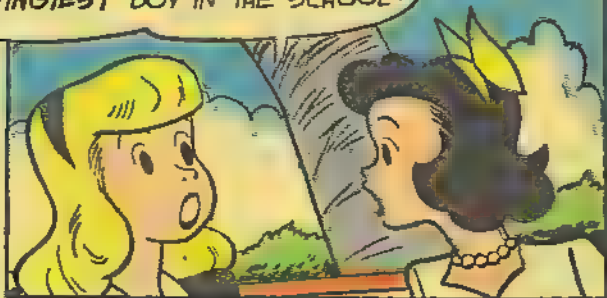
Many additions have been made to the original planetarium equipment, so that it is now possible to show the aurora in all its glory; eclipses of the sun; thunder storms, with all the realistic accompaniment of dark clouds and streaks of lightning. There are also special features to be seen in addition to the regular show of the stars. "The Trip to the Moon" is an exciting feature; others are, "The End of the World," "Mysterious Mars," and "Why the Weather?"

Other planetariums in the United States are: The Adler, in Chicago; the Fels, in Philadelphia; Griffith Park, in Los Angeles; and the Buhl, the newest in this country, which was opened in 1939, in Pittsburgh.

Even if you can't get to a Planetarium, do get out and watch the stars. Armed with a simple book on astronomy, you will find much to delight you in the skies.



SO YOU LET MERVYN DATE YOU, GLORIA? WHY, HE'S THE STINGIEST BOY IN THE SCHOOL!

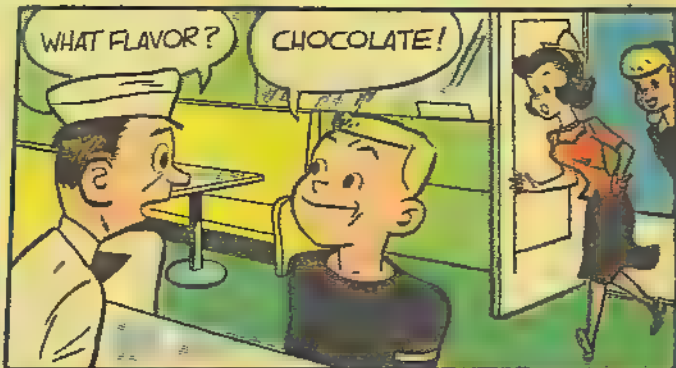


I DON'T THINK SO. HE ASKED ME TO JOIN HIM IN A SODA. I'M ON MY WAY THERE NOW!

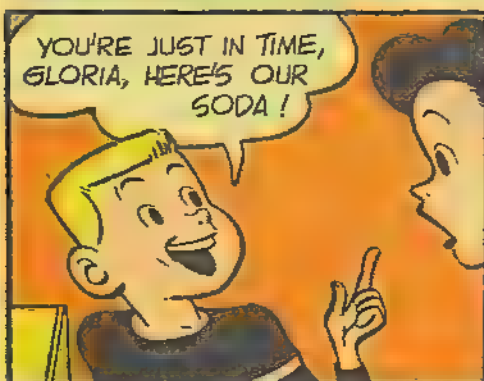


WHAT FLAVOR?

CHOCOLATE!

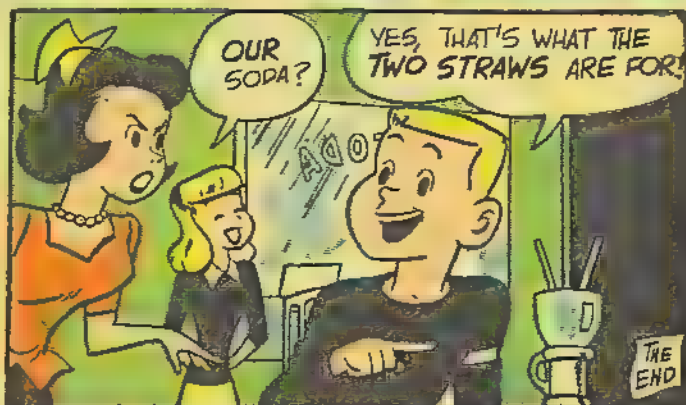


YOU'RE JUST IN TIME, GLORIA, HERE'S OUR SODA!



OUR SODA?

YES, THAT'S WHAT THE TWO STRAWS ARE FOR!



ADVERTISEMENT

OUR BUNCH ALL MUNCH

NESTLÉ'S
CRUNCH
MILK CHOCOLATE
NESTLÉ CRUNCH

WON'T YOU JOIN US, TOO?

Delicious-Different



FOR DAYS, TAKING TIME OFF ONLY FOR FOOD AND WATER AND A LITTLE SLEEP, THE VIGILANTE HAS SAT, STRIVING TO ANSWER A RIDDLE. VISIONS OF SCENIC WONDERS DANCE ON WALL AND CEILING, AND IN HIS REELING BRAIN! CAN HE DO IT? CAN THE PRAIRIE PALADIN SOLVE THE PUZZLE THAT WILL MEAN A LIFETIME OF HAPPINESS TO DEBORAH GIRTMON AND FERD RUSSELL? CAN HE GUESS...

"The SEVEN WONDERS of the WEST!"

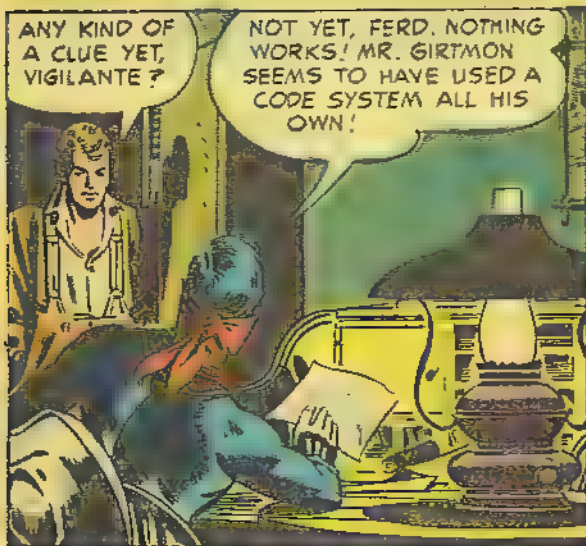
ANY KIND OF A CLUE YET, VIGILANTE?

NOT YET, FERD. NOTHING WORKS! MR. GIRTMON SEEMS TO HAVE USED A CODE SYSTEM ALL HIS OWN!

AND STUFF, WHO HAS JUST GOT INTO TOWN IN ANSWER TO VIGILANTE'S TELEGRAM, IS ALSO MYSTIFIED!

WHAT GIVES, VIG? WHAT'S ALL THIS FRANTIC HUNTING FOR CODES AND ANAGRAMS, AND WHY THE TRAVEL MAPS?

WELL, IT'S A SORT OF LOVE STORY, STUFF - A LOVE STORY WHERE A GIRL, TO GET THE MAN SHE LOVES, DID THE ONE THING THAT MAY KEEP HIM FROM HER FOREVER!



"THE BOY IS FERD RUSSELL, WORKING IN THE NEXT ROOM. THE GIRL IS DEBORAH GIRTMON, WHOSE FATHER OWNS THE BIG TRIANGLE BOX RANCH IN TEXAS PANHANDLE. SOME YEARS AGO, WHEN FERD WAS PAINTING THAT COUNTRY, THEY MET AND FELL IN LOVE..."



I'LL BE BACK IN A YEAR, DEBBY. I HAVE TO FINISH MY ART STUDIES IN PARIS.

I'LL WAIT FOR YOU, FERD--I PROMISE!



"HER PROMISE WAS EASILY GIVEN, BUT ONE DAY OLD HECTOR GIRTMON SAID TO HIS DAUGHTER..."

LAND O' GOSHEN, GIRL! I'M GETTIN' ON. IT'S TIME YUH GOT YO'RESELF A HUSBAND! YUH DON'T LIKE CAL JORGENS. YUH DON'T LIKE BEN MAYLOR!

THEY-ER- AREN'T ROMANTIC ENOUGH, PA. THEY DON'T GO OUT AND DO THINGS!



YUH MEAN LIKE THEM OLD TIME STORIES ABOUT PRINCES GOIN' OUT AN' DOIN' THINGS TO WIN A PRINCESS?

THAT'S IT, IN A WAY, PA...



"THE IDEA APPEALED TO OLD HECTOR. TO EACH SUITOR FOR HIS DAUGHTER'S HAND, HE ASSIGNED A DIFFICULT TASK! THEY ALL FAILED..."

I'M SORRY, CAL.

I HAVEN'T QUIT YET, DEBBY. I FAILED THOSE TESTS, BUT NO MAN COULD DO THEM! I'M GOING TO KEEP TRYING...

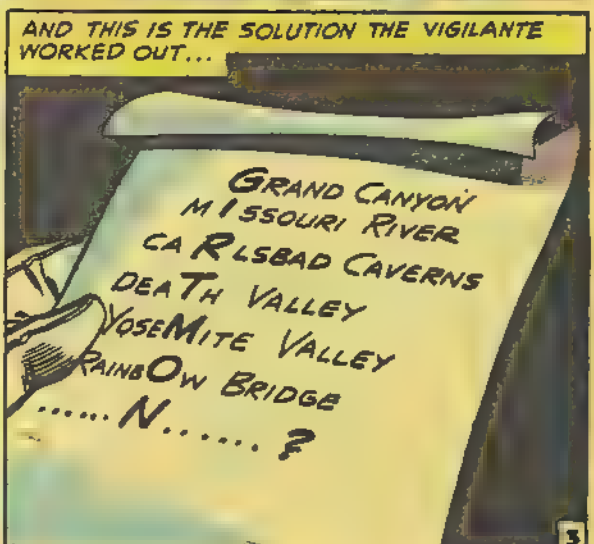
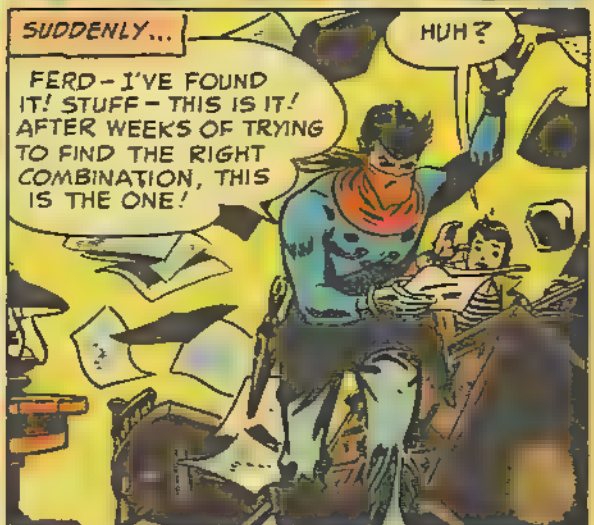
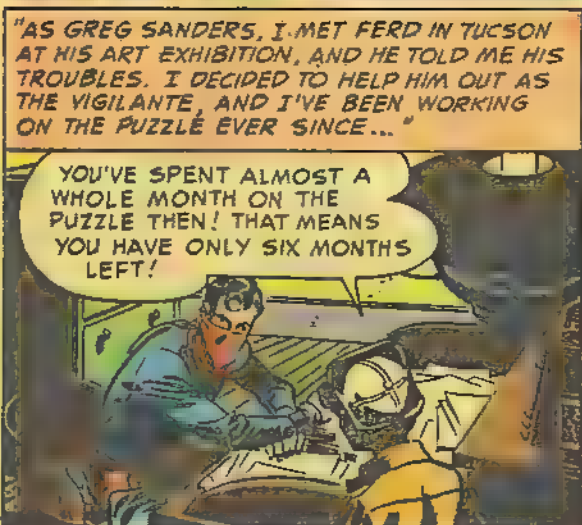
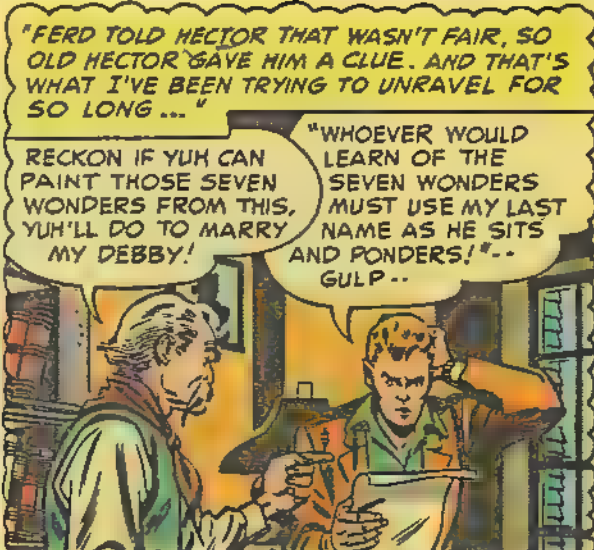


"AND THEN FERD RUSSELL CAME HOME, AND DEBORAH GIRTMON DISCOVERED THAT SHE WAS CAUGHT IN HER OWN TRAP..."

BUT, PA—I LOVE FERD. I WANT TO MARRY HIM!

YUH CAN MARRY HIM ONLY IF HE'S MAN ENOUGH TO PASS THEM TESTS, GIRL! WHAT'S RIGHT FOR ONE IS RIGHT FOR ALL! FAIR IS FAIR!





LESS THAN FIFTEEN MINUTES AFTER VIGILANTE, STUFF AND FERD RUSSELL LEAVE THEIR HOTEL ROOM, THE DOOR ONCE AGAIN SWINGS OPEN...

HE DID IT! I-I NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD. WELL - THIS CALLS FOR A LITTLE ACTION, IF I EVER HOPE TO STOP HIM!



NEXT, BY SADDLE AND PACK-HORSE, THE TRAVELERS MOVE ON TO THE MISSOURI RIVER...

WE'RE RIGHT ON SCHEDULE. IF THIS KEEPS UP, WE'LL BE BACK ON THE TRIANGLE BOX IN TIME.

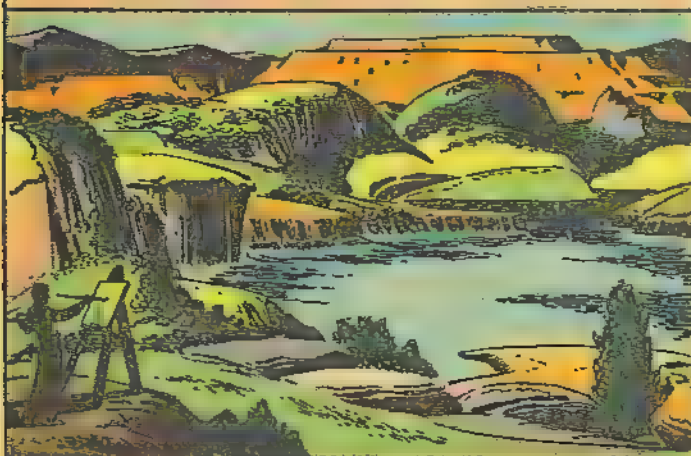


SOME DAYS LATER, FROM THE SOUTH RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON OF THE COLORADO, FERD'S EASEL LOOKS DOWN ON THE MASSIVE CATHEDRAL STAIRS...

THIS IS THE FIRST WONDER!



SOME MILES BELOW THE JUNCTURE OF THE MISSOURI AND THE MUSSEL-SHELL RIVERS IN MONTANA, FERD PUTS THE NUMBER TWO WESTERN WONDERS IN OILS...



...WHILE AN UNSEEN ENEMY WATCHES...

I'LL HAVE A LITTLE SURPRISE FOR THEM A LITTLE FURTHER ON. LET THE FOOLS PAINT AND PAINT - UNTIL IT'LL BE TOO LATE!



A MONTH LATER, IN THE GRIM BEAUTY OF NEW MEXICO'S CARLSBAD CAVERN...



AND THEN THE MIGHTY CASCADE OF WATER THAT IS YOSEMITE FALLS IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK MAKES PAINTING NUMBER FIVE ..



FOLLOWING THAT, THE HOT WHITE SANDS OF DEATH VALLEY IN CALIFORNIA ARE TRANSFERRED BY OIL TO DRY CANYAS...



SOME WEEKS LATER, FERGUSON RUSSELL SETS UP HIS CANYAS ON THE RIMROCK OVERLOOKING RAINBOW BRIDGE IN UTAH...

WE HAVE LESS THAN A MONTH TO GO, VIG! THINK WE'LL MAKE IT?

BARRING ACCIDENTS WE WILL!



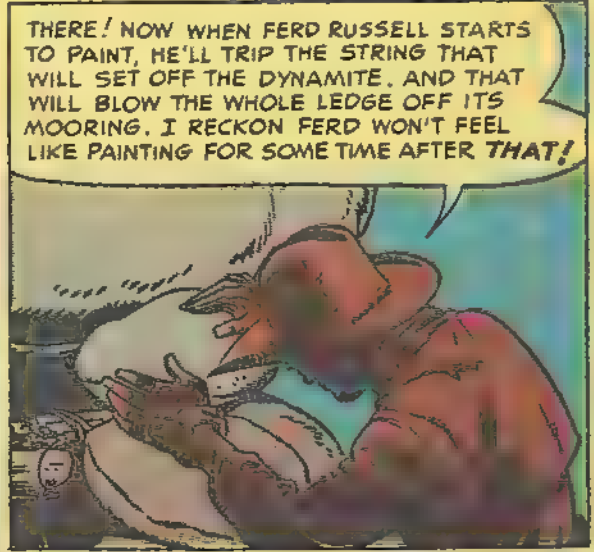
BUT WHILE THEY ARE GONE, A MAN SLIPS STICKS OF DYNAMITE DOWN IN THE CRACKS OF THE RIMROCK ABOVE THE NATURAL BRIDGE...

I'VE GOT TO COVER THIS DYNAMITE. IF I DON'T COVER IT UP, THE VIGILANTE WILL BE SURE TO SPOT IT!





THE ONLY ROCKS AROUND HERE ARE THOSE FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE VALLEY FLOOR, BUT THEY'LL DO AS WELL AS ANY!

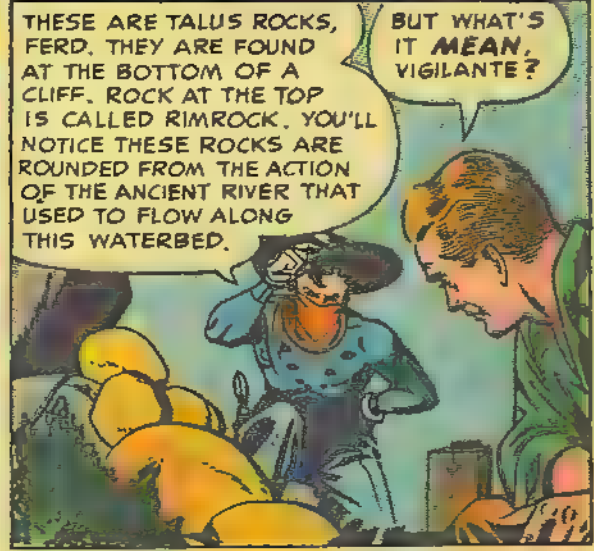
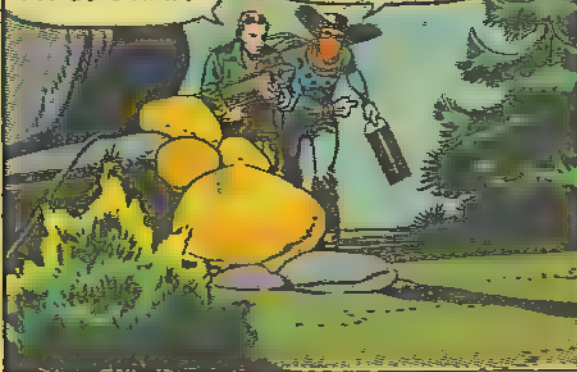


THERE! NOW WHEN FERD RUSSELL STARTS TO PAINT, HE'LL TRIP THE STRING THAT WILL SET OFF THE DYNAMITE. AND THAT WILL BLOW THE WHOLE LEDGE OFF ITS MOORING. I RECKON FERD WON'T FEEL LIKE PAINTING FOR SOME TIME AFTER *THAT!*

NEXT MORNING, AN HOUR AFTER DAWN, VIGILANTE AND FERD CLIMB TO THE RIMROCK -

I'LL FINISH THIS IN SHORT ORDER, THEN WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY!

HOLD ON, FERD! THERE'S SOMETHING **WRONG** HERE!



THESE ARE TALUS ROCKS, FERD. THEY ARE FOUND AT THE BOTTOM OF A CLIFF. ROCK AT THE TOP IS CALLED RIMROCK. YOU'LL NOTICE THESE ROCKS ARE ROUNDED FROM THE ACTION OF THE ANCIENT RIVER THAT USED TO FLOW ALONG THIS WATERBED.

BUT WHAT'S IT **MEAN**, VIGILANTE?

IT MEANS SOMEBODY DOESN'T WANT YOU TO MAKE THOSE PAINTINGS! LOOK - **DYNAMITE!**

-GULP- IF-IF I'D TRIPPED THE STRING ATTACHED TO THAT, I'D HAVE BLOWN US SKY-HIGH!



FOREWARNED IS FOREARMED, FERD! NOW THAT WE KNOW SOMEONE WANTS TO STOP US, WE CAN PROTECT OURSELVES. WE'LL TAKE YOUR FINISHED PAINTINGS TO A SAFE PLACE, PRONTO!



LEAVING RAINBOW BRIDGE, VIGILANTE AND FERD RUSSELL MAKE A HURRIED VISIT TO A NEARBY CITY...

I HAVE A BANKER FRIEND IN THAT TOWN. HE'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO!

NOW WHAT ARE THEY UP TO? RECKON I'LL TRAIL ALONG AND FIND OUT!



IN THE OFFICES OF THE BORDER COUNTY BANK...

WE HAVE JUST THE THING, VIGILANTE. A TIME VAULT WE'RE NOT USING! YOU TELL US WHEN YOU EXPECT TO RETURN FROM THE FIELD WITH THE SIXTH PAINTING AND THE VAULT WILL OPEN AT THAT MINUTE!

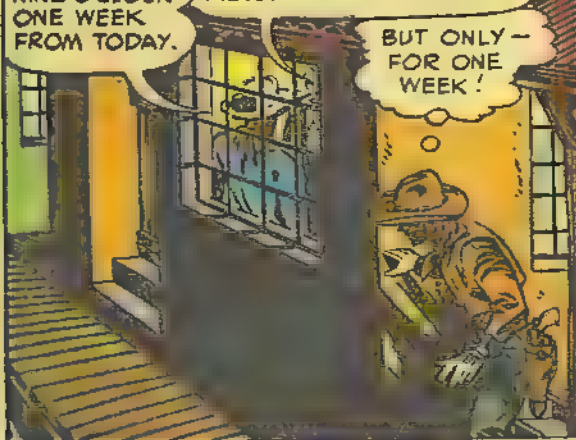
JUST THE THING!



WE'LL BE BACK AT NINE O'CLOCK ONE WEEK FROM TODAY.

THE VAULT WILL BE SET FOR JUST THAT TIME! YOUR PICTURES WILL BE SAFE.

BUT ONLY — FOR ONE WEEK!



WITH A RELIEVED MIND, FERD RUSSELL COMPLETES HIS PAINTING OF RAINBOW BRIDGE...

THERE! IT'S DONE! NOW WE HAVE EIGHT DAYS TO PICK UP THE PAINTINGS, AND RETURN TO THE TRIANGLE BOX!



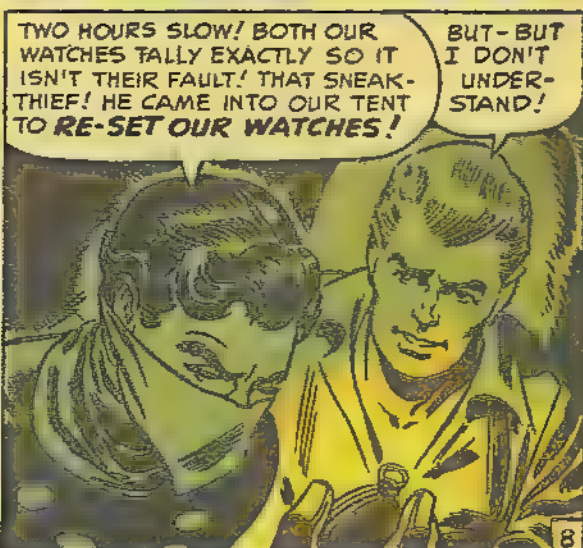
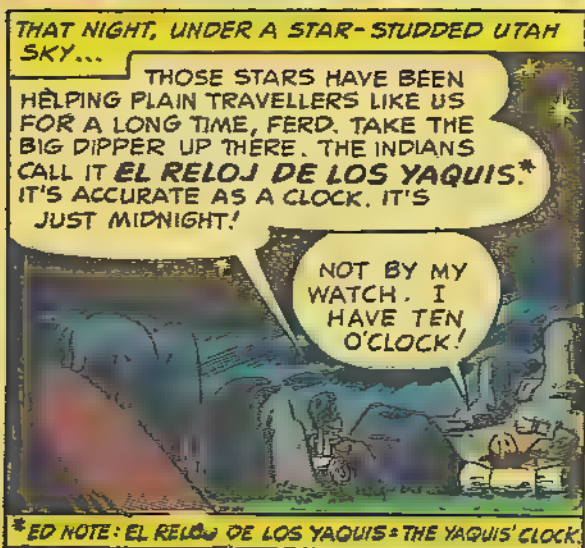
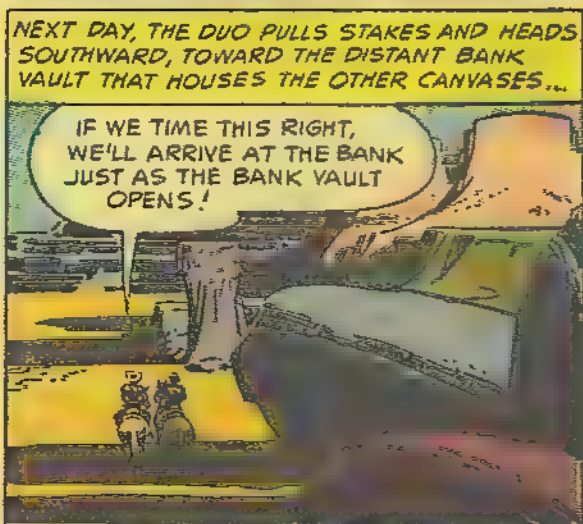
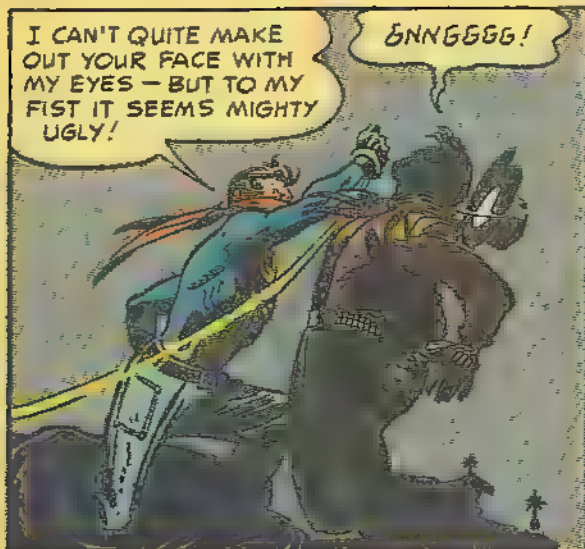
THAT NIGHT AS THE UTAH DARKNESS CLOSES IN ABOUT THEIR LITTLE CAMP, A FURTIVE FIGURE ENTERS THEIR TENT...



THE ALERT SENSES OF THE PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR COME FULLY AWAKE TO DANGER. WITH A SILENT LUNGE, HE IS FREE OF HIS BED-ROLL, AND HIS HANDS GO OUT LIKE IRON CLAMPS!

STAY A WHILE, HOMBRE!





*ED NOTE: EL RELOJ DE LOS YAQUIS = THE YAQUIS' CLOCK.

THE SAME HOMBRE WHO TRIED TO BLOW YOU OFF THE RAINBOW BRIDGE RIMROCK SET OUR WATCHES BACK. HE AIMS TO BE AT THE BANK WHEN THE TIME-VAULT OPENS - **TO STEAL YOUR PICTURES!** LET'S GET GOING!



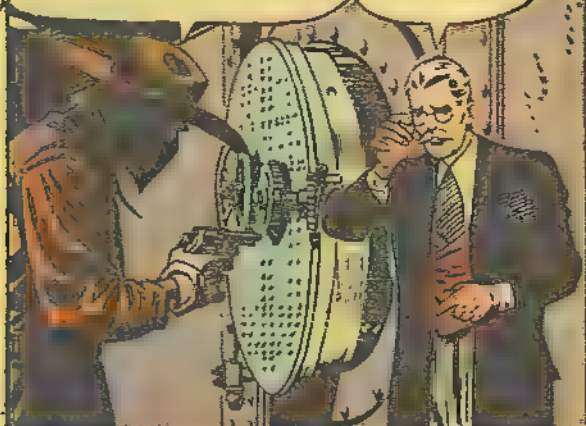
NEXT MORNING, JUST AS THE MECHANICAL CONTROLS OF THE TIME VAULT WHIRR TO RELEASE THEIR CLAMPS -

THIS IS A STICK-UP! ANYBODY THAT MAKES A SOUND, GETS A BULLET!



SHE'S OPENING NOW! TAKE OUT THE PAINTINGS AND HAND 'EM OVER!

- GULP -
WHATEVER YOU SAY.



SUDDENLY...



BUT IF YOU LIKE PICTURES SO MUCH, I'LL PAINT SOME OF MY OWN -



- IN BLACK AND BLUE!

YOU!!



WHY, THAT'S CAL JORGENS, I DON'T THINK ONE OF DEBBY'S SUITORS! I KNOW HE LIKED HER, BUT I DIDN'T THINK HE LOVED HER ENOUGH TO ROB AND KILL!

IT WAS LOVE OF DEBBY AS MUCH AS LOVE OF THE WEALTH THAT WILL SOME DAY BE HERS! LUCKY FOR US WE DISCOVERED THE CHANGE IN OUR WATCHES - OR WE'D HAVE TAKEN OUR TIME GETTING HERE!



YOUR FORTUNE-HUNTING BOOMERANGED, JORGENS! THE ONLY FORTUNE YOU'LL GET NOW IS PLENTY OF TIME - BEHIND JAIL BARS!



WE HAVE THEM ALL EXCEPT NUMBER SEVEN, FERD. AND THAT ONE STILL PUZZLES ME! WE'VE ONLY A WEEK TO GUESS AND PAINT IT.

LEAVE THAT TO ME, VIG. I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING IN THIS DEAL!



AND SO, SOME DAYS LATER ON THE TRIANGLE BOX ...

SIX OF 'EM ARE HERE, FERD. BUT WHERE'S NUMBER SEVEN?

RIGHT HERE, SIR! THIS ONE I HAD TO GUESS MYSELF!



THE SEVENTH WONDER OF THE WEST - THE VIGILANTE!!!





BUD, COULD I GET A WRIST WATCH THE SAME EASY WAY YOU GOT THAT AIR RIFLE

YOU SURE CAN SIS, ALSO DOLLS BICYCLES AND MANY OTHER THINGS, JUST MAIL COUPON TO START, LIKE I DID



AND SIS MAILED IN THE COUPON AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE

LOOK, BUD - WILSON SENT WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE AND EVERYTHING. I DIDN'T HAVE TO SEND A PENNY. NOW I'LL GET MY WRISTWATCH



YOU'LL SELL THEM FAST!

THANKS, SIS, THIS IS A WONDERFUL ART PICTURE THAT YOU'RE GIVING ME WITH THIS FINE SALVE



YES! GIVING THE PICTURES MADE IT FUN TO SELL ALL I NEED FOR MY WATCH

IT SURE IS - I'M GOING TO GET A BIKE NEXT



LOOK AT MY NEW WATCH ISN'T IT LOVELY

VALUABLE PREMIUMS GIVEN BOYS • GIRLS • MEN • LADIES

Be First!
ACT NOW!



GENUINE .22 CAL. RIFLES, 1000 Shot Daisy Air Rifles (with tube of shot), Cameras, Footballs, Telescopes, complete Fishing Kits, Movie Machines (sent postage paid). Simply Give beautiful pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE used for chaps and mild burns and easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 25c a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with your order postage paid by us to start. Mail coupon below.



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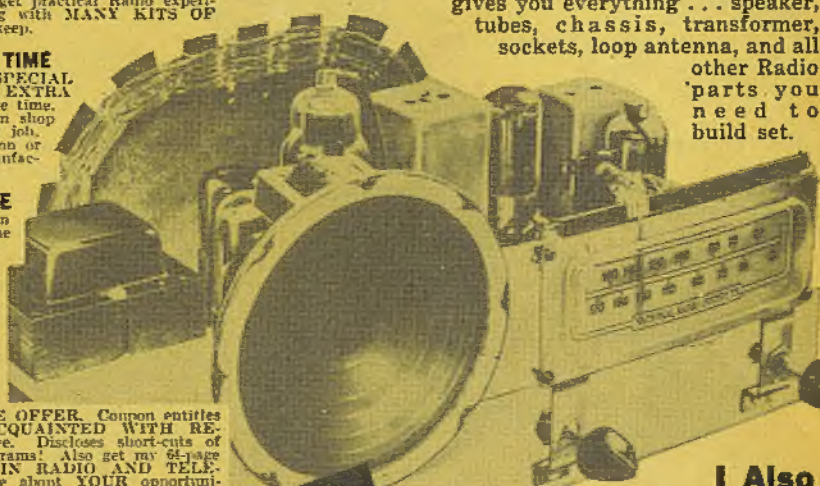
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